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COMFORT

THE KEY TO A MILLION AND A QUARTER HOMES

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PRIZE STORIES.

The following conditions govern the awarding of cash prizes for Nutshell Stories, and the manuscripts of such writers only as have complied with all these requirements will receive consideration.

All the necessary particulars being here clearly set forth, it will be useless for anyone to seek further information or personal favors by addressing the editor, as such letters cannot be answered.

1. Only persons who are regular paid up yearly subscribers to "Comfort" and who send with every manuscript at least two yearly subscribers (together with 50 cents to pay for each subscriber so sent) may compete for the prizes.

2. All contributions must have the number of words they contain plainly noted thereon in addition to the writer's full name and address with nom de plume (if desired); must be written on one side of the paper only, enclosed in the same envelope as the letter and remittance for new subscriptions, and addressed to EDITOR NUTSHELL STORY CLUB care of COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

3. All stories must be strictly original with the contributors, and must not have appeared in print before. Competitors may write upon any subject, whether based upon fact, fancy or fiction—of adventure, love, war, peace; of city or country life, or of experiences on land or sea—but no story must contain more than 2,000 or less than 1,000 words.

4. No MANUSCRIPT WILL BE RETURNED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES AND COMPETITORS SHOULD THEREFORE RETAIN A COPY OF WHAT THEY SEND.

5. From \$5 to \$20 will be paid for stories, and remittances will be sent by check as soon as awards have been made.

No premiums will be given for subscriptions sent in under this Short Story Prize offer.

The Publishers of "Comfort" reserve the right to purchase at their established rates any stories submitted under the foregoing offer, which failed to secure a prize.

6. Writers who hear nothing of their manuscript may at the end of 90 days after submitting them to "Comfort" feel at liberty to offer their stories for sale elsewhere.

PRIZE WINNERS FOR FEBRUARY.

Katherine Stagg, First Prize,
Walton Riggs, Second Prize,
Charles E. Barns, Third Prize,
F. E. Burnham, Fourth Prize,
Ella F. Mosby, Fifth Prize.

The Cowboy's Dream.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY KATHERINE STAGG.

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WELL, I'm that gold-darned tired, I could bust out acryin'!" The speaker dropped limply into the one rickety chair the place afforded. She was very much out of breath; she was rather stormy as to expression; and, it must be confessed, somewhat grotesquely dressed. She had a bundle in her arms that threatened to spill its contents any moment; she clutched at a big roll of glaring yellow handkerchiefs while trying to hold a small white bouquet without interfering with her other encumbrances; but dusty, tired, and disheveled, she was wonderfully pretty! And when we say a girl is wonderfully pretty, the practised story reader pricks up his ears for he knows that is where and why most stories begin.

There had been an encouraging shout from a half dozen miners and cowboys outside the dance hall as Nan entered. She fanned vigorously for a moment smiling grimly, then broke out. "I don't care, I got here first. I saw me rival startin' out pickin' her way, an' I say to myself: Nan ye've been the miner's pride and pet since ye wuz a baby an' on this night, the great annual ball of the Bloody Buccaneers—ain't that a grand name? there ain't a soul in town knows what it means! well, I sez, ye must be fust on the spot; an'—I came lickity split! Thar ain't never been a gal on the plains could sing or dance or shoot with me; an' now Mexican Joe has got to go meddlin' an' gettin' up this here prize winnin' contest for the best singer an' dancer an' bringin' the sickly lookin' gal out here to—try for the prizes; it makes me sick!" Nan gulped down a sob as she crossed over to the primitive sideboard. The familiar whiskey bottle and a glass were picked up almost unconsciously, and Nan proceeded to pour out a generous drink, but paused with it half way to her mouth, and with a curious look, she set it down again, reached over for a larger tumbler which held some water and began to arrange in it her little drooping half dozen flowers with as much care as if they had been the rarest orchids.

"Tain't enough to have Eastern Song Bird for yer rival, but it likes to harrer my feelin's when I think that the best steady I ever had got killed last night, and is layin' dead thar in the next room! An' I ain't got the money to bury him decent. The prize is wuth two hundred dollars. My, what a funeral that would pay for! I must win it—I will win it!" Carefully carrying the precious bouquet, Nan crossed to the inner room—"Bill, you wuz a good man to me an' I'll sing for ye to-night

with all my heart and soul as I never sung for yer while yer wuz alive." And Nan's bright dark eyes glowed and cheeks crimsoned with the earnestness of her promise. Presently there was a timid knock at the door and it was pushed open, so gently it must have surprised that old door more accustomed to kicks and even shots. A girl entered younger and smaller than Nan, a dainty creature graceful as a fairy; by the roll of music she carried it was quite easy to guess that it was Nan's rival.

"The Great Eastern Song Bird." She looked about her in affright as she exclaimed "Oh, dear, I wonder if this is the place? I'm half scared to death. They say there was a murder here last night and that 'it' has not been taken away yet. What an awful place to hold a ball in! Oh, I will be so glad when Mexican Joe gets here; he don't seem like the rest of these looking men."

There was a slight sound behind her, and the poor Song Bird jumped as if she expected a grizzly bear to leap out of the piano, but it was only Nan, looking crosser than any self-respecting grizzly ever dare look. She glanced at the new arrival and remarked loftily, "I s'pose you're Miss Lightfoot from the East!" hurrying to secure the one chair as she proceeded to take off her shoes and put on a pair of white slippers much too small for her.

"I am; Dolly Lightfoot, thank you," she answered politely, "and this is Miss—"

"Oh, thar ain't no gol-darned airs about me, I'm just Nan!"

"Ah, just Nan!" there was a slight suspicion of sarcasm in Dolly's voice as she glanced about for another chair in vain.

Tugging at an unwilling slipper Nan questioned, "I suppose you think you know jest all there is to know about singin'?"

"Well, hardly that, but I am going to do the best I can. I must; I need the money."

"You need money!" Nan glanced incredulously at the dainty costume of lace and spangles Dolly had disclosed by removing her cloak. A sudden quail seized poor Nan. Pretty as she was, that seemed unimportant to her when confronted for the first time by that indefinable quality called style—she thought Dolly's gown must have cost hundreds of dollars, for Nan had never heard of bargain counters and their mysteries. As she limped to the piano, a dozen schemes were flitting through her head; but one hope upheld her—perhaps Dolly couldn't sing well, after all. Turning some time worn music, she asked, "Do you sing Cow songs?"

"Certainly not!" answered Dolly indignantly.

"Oh! I suppose you sing screechy then; would you like a drink before you begin? singin' is dry work."

"No, I thank you. I shall just run over one or two of my latest songs before the guests arrive; you needn't mind me, I can play for myself quite well;" and as Nan turned away in some disappointment, she added, "What a very unpleasant person!"

Then followed a bad half hour for poor Nan, for Dolly poured forth one after another all of the latest operatic successes. Nan's own bird notes were lovelier far, but she did not know that, and the trills and cadenzas executed by Dolly seemed little short of supernatural. When she finished and turned around Nan could only find voice to say weakly "have a drink now?"

An amused smile flickered over Dolly's face as she replied, "no, not any!"

"Oh, you needn't be so gosh-blamed stuck up," flashed Nan, "if you stay to this ball tonight you'll be glad enough of a bracer before you're two hours older."

A perceptible shudder passed through Dolly's slender frame. There was a long pause. In Nan's face there was growing a desperate purpose that made her pale; suddenly wheeling on her rival she began, "See here, yer don't understand, I admits yer sing like a hull dozen of waterfalls to onet, but I've got to win that prize tonight an' I ask yer civil to let me do it pleasant like; but if not—" there was an ominous sound in the broken off sentence.

"The idea!" Dolly shrugged her shoulders. "Yes, and it's my idea. Listen! My Bill got killed last night and I want the plunks to set 'em up good fer his last ride! Thar! now ye knows all my reasons whatever."

"Ah, I heard!" said Dolly softly, "so he was—"

"He was my Bill, and he was awful good to me—he never cuffed me once except when he got drunk on town rum. Bill was a good man!"

"What! cuffed you?"

"Yes—ain't yer never got cuffed?"

"Good gracious no!"

"Umph! yer don't know what life is. Say! yer never know how much yer can love a man 'til he licks yer once. Oh dear, this will be Bill's last ball."

"Do you mean to say—" Dolly was getting really frightened, "that they are going to leave the—the body in there while we are—are dancing in here?"

"Sure! Why, Bill's feelin's would be hurt if we didn't. He wuz all-fired fond of dancin' an' the gol-darned st man fer a jig that ever you see. Poor Bill!"

"But this is horrible."

"To know he's a layin' there so close will

give me courage for dancin' an' winnin' the prize."

"But it don't give me courage. It isn't fair! And I'm going to ask Mexican Joe to have it— it removed."

"Mexican Joe! He darsn't touch him. It lays twixt him an' Four Finger Pete as to who killed my Bill."

"Oh, it could not have been Joe,—he's so good and kind."

"Oh, ho! that's the way the wind blows—ah, but you're a skittish one not to say so before."

A sudden idea seemed to possess Nan, for, whirling about in a sort of Indian dance she almost shouted:

"I've got some papers what Mexican Joe lost once; he set store by 'em I know. I kept 'em cause—well, Bill hed a grudge agin him somehow. I'll go fetch 'em an' give 'em to Joe if ye'll let me win the prize tonight. It was the dream of Bill's life to be buried in a biled shirt, an' to have me drive thro' town in a carriage cryin' behind a great big gol-darned long crape veil."

With flying hair and wildly panting bosom, Nan dashed out into the night, regardless of her white slippers that threatened to bring her to grief at every step. Five minutes later she returned to find Dolly and Mexican Joe in deep consultation. Thrusting the papers into Joe's hands, Nan said in a voice hoarse with emotion: "Thar! Joe, take 'em! ef 'twar wrong to keep 'em blame me, but don't lift yer tongue agin Bill."

One glance and Joe surprised his sweetheart by rushing up to Nan and kissing her heartily.

"Why, Nan, gal, these are worth a fortune, an' ef I'd had 'em even late as last week I'd a sold out my interest fer nigh onto nothin' like a plumb fool. They goes to show that I own half the big 'Lucky William Mine' and the assays have just come in and, gals, I'm rich! rich, do you hear?"

Nan was awe stricken for a moment at the importance of the "papers" she had withheld. "An' the prize tonight?"

"Shall be yours, Nan, and five hundred dollars added to it. Dolly is goin' to only sing for me henceforward whatever; eh, little sweetheart?"

"God bless yer, Joe. I hope yer wedded bliss will ekal what Bill an' me sperieced. An' say, would yer Song Bird an' yerself like ter ride in the carriage with me when they plants Bill?"

And thus Nan showed her gratitude that Bill's dream could be fulfilled.

A Roman Scarf.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY WALTON RIGGS.

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ALL Europe was astir with political intrigue and the corruptions that attend illy governed sections. Assassinations were not frequent although the authorities down to those of minor importance, were constantly receiving threatening letters, and since King Humbert's violent end

every country had its corps of detectives who were on the alert to find some clue to the location of the so-called anarchists.

One of the largest American dailies on whose staff I chanced to be at the time, thought by sending a representative incognito across the water some information might be gained which would change the popular idea that America harbored the instigators of all these tremendous life-exterminating plots. And I was chosen to go to Europe for three months and discover what I could in the way of making sensations for our paper.

I decided upon Paris to locate first, as that was the best city to find a bit of all classes. I found lodgings in the Latin Quarter and was unknown save as "the foreigner who writes."

The first night I was there I figured in a street brawl, in which I dragged a drunken brute away from a little street musician, whom he would have pounded into powder had he screams not alarmed me as I sat in my room three stories above. But such things occur so constantly that one has to learn to get acclimated, and never see and hear, or else be a self-appointed police.

State affairs at this time were very quiet, so quiet too, in fact, were all sorts of malicious doings, it seemed as though a storm must be pending, and it was into this very shower that I longed to plunge, and which eventually I barely escaped.

A few facts I did learn—that through some mysterious way messages of great political importance were daily passing into and through the city. All suspects were examined and occasionally in a woman's cloak, or in some part of a man's clothing was found a bit of lace or something he or she were trying to smuggle; but beyond this nothing written, and nothing could be told verbally because the conspiracy required information which could not be trusted to word of mouth. This I knew from the nature of affairs and my varied views and opin-

ions on the subject. I was daily communicating to the paper, extracts of which appeared in quotations in Paris dailies every now and then with the comment that "A clever man from America would in time do more to thwart the plans of these conspirators than a whole force of detectives."

I was gaining publicity that I did not want and could not afford to have in my line of business just at this time, and I sat in a little wine shop one evening thinking if it would not be better for me to leave Paris for a little while, when a most unusual incident happened. The musicians stopped playing for an intermission, while the little tambourine girl gathered up the few coins that were expected. When she came to my table she asked if she could not be my fortune, and being struck with the beauty of the girl I did not hesitate to let her hold my hand and examine my palm as long as she liked. Presently she began to speak and to my intense amusement, instead of predicting for me she said in a monotone:

"I am Mordante, a Hungarian gypsy, and I never forgive a wrong or forget a kindness, and Monsieur was good to me the night the ruffian tried to beat me. The Monsieur does not remember, but I have loved him and followed him for weeks since until I have learned what it is that will make him the most happy and—"

Just then a waiter who thought she was disturbing me, caught her roughly by the skirt, and as he pushed her away she pulled a gorgeously colored silken scarf from her neck and tossing it over my head in a banteringly coquettish way, added,

"My heart is wrapped within its folds, Monsieur."

Eagerly I folded the scarf and put it in my inside pocket, nearest my heart, so that she might see, and with a nod she with her musician associates passed out into the night, to be eulogized only in a newspaper clipping the following morning:

"A gypsy girl, Mordante, probably one of the conspirators, shot at midnight for losing important and complicating papers, and if the right person only finds these he will have made his name and fortune."

Instinctively my hand went to my pocket that contained the scarf, and the crumple of paper as my hand closed around it told me the depth and value of the heart Mordante had given me.

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The Romance of a Ruby.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY CHARLES E. BARNES.

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THE gong sounded. Both sprang to the platform of the car, advancing up that double phalanx of spread newspapers, taking the only two vacant seats almost opposite each other. Dick wiped his forehead, unfolding his evening maze of scareheads and caricature, settling back in reverie over the Wall Street column.

Soon, however, the young broker became conscious of a keen eye fixed upon him. Over the parapet of pages he ventured a sly glance, then caught his breath. The hatband tightened about his moist brow. Above the roar of the up-moving train Dick heard the beatings of his own heart. Before him on the damp sheet there glowed the spirit-picture of a sweet-faced young woman in the simple gown of a dollar-drudge. He recognized it.

It was a sensitive, virginal type, quite scarlet with surprise, and she was breathing short and fast as with an inner tumult. The little form was bent slightly forward as when a bird takes flight from a ledge, the curling lashes down-dropped against the throbbing cheek. It was Alice.

Vividly that name conjured an eventful past. Dick closed his eyes and dreamed. He saw again in the clear morning light the old mansion of the crag-point overlooking the warm stretch of Champlain valley. There were winding ways through the wood, over trout-brooks spanned by rustic bridges, and torrents that tore over mossy cascades in apparent haste to reach the sleeping lake below. He recalled, too, the grizzled veteran, the man of millions, blustering, abrupt, piling shilling on shilling in his great granite quarries, and who looked with mingled indifference and contempt upon the promises of young dreamers in the warmth of love's first dawning.

And he recalled too the parting hour—it was Alice's eighteenth birthday—when she told him, as she had been instructed, that with all due regard for his friendly interest, she was destined for a higher career than one of such humble birth and prospects could vouchsafe her; and then he realized for the first time that he had been building high hopes upon illusions that were dispelled with the mere gesture of the parental hand. Without question or argument Dick Ellis had breathed a faint farewell, leaving her there upon the fallen beech-log, she hoping that he would turn about just once and give her a tender glance—a thing which he had never done to this day.

And he recalled how, after packing up his worldly effects in a pocket-parcel and shaking the dust of his native hamlet from his feet forever, he had come to a great metropolis to seek fortune, and how the first tidings of Alice overwhelmed him. She was in London, the guest of a West End society goddess, and betrothed to an Earl. From that day the fading image of Alice lost its power to cheer the battler against great odds even in adversity.

Then came the "black March" of '92 when fortunes went down like tin soldiers to the boom of the bean-cannon, and Wall Street was the abode of fiends. In one corner of a financial oracle were three lines that told of the utter rout and ruin of the quarry-king of the North, and his sudden death following this mortal blow to his pride. Later Dick heard of the broken engagement and the home-coming of the "belle of Champlain."

And now, here she was—the wife of an exalted peer, the leader of a charmed West End circle? No, no; merely another insignificant cog in the great money-mill of the metropolis, with stained fingers that showed familiarity with the ruling-pen and a general aspect of resignation to untoward destiny. A clay-faced Chinaman sat on her right, a Bohemian peasant-type crowding her left with a heavy basket. How tragically the dull insipidity of the dollar-drudges contrasted with the cameo features of that patrician type—the child of fortune to a higher manner born and so pitifully unequipped amid these surroundings so at variance with her early destiny! For once Dick Ellis forgot his eighths and sixteenths, his cable advices and his prophecies for the morrow. He was alive to the keenest sense of compassion which seemed nevertheless an ignoble emotion after the passing of the greater; yet was he prompted then and there to do what he had long ago vowed that he would never do so long as he lived. But then, since neither the Chinaman nor the peasant-woman vacated to give him the chance, how could he?

Another station and then they should part, perhaps for as many years again. How long and tenderly did the broker's keen eyes rest upon that pallid countenance dotted with scar-

Finding a Fortune and Founding a Fortune.

A Tramp's Luck and an Energetic Man's Purpose.

It is perhaps true as told that a tramp, searching a garbage barrel for scraps of refuse food, found a fortune in good United States currency. Such a thing may happen.

But the workman who gives up a steady occupation however unremunerative to hunt garbage barrels for a fortune will surely degenerate to a tramp. There is a difference between finding a fortune and founding a fortune. Few men chance upon fortunes. The fortunes we know about are not found but founded on a certain substantial basis. The nature of that basis of fortune is well set forth in the advice given by a successful merchant to a young man who asked, "What is the first requisite to making a fortune?"

"The first requisite to making a fortune," said the rich man, "is health." "The idea that fortunes are made suggests toil and industry and skill. Nothing can be made without these. But a weak man cannot toil, and industry is incompatible with ill-health. If you want to be strong remember that all physical strength comes from food and that the amount of strength extracted from food depends upon the ability of the stomach to digest food and assimilate its nutrition. The man who takes care of his digestion is, in general, taking care of every other organ of his body."

SUCCESS OF THE STOMACH.

The merchant who gave the above opinion may not have been much of a physician but he was a good deal of a philosopher. He had seen men with success almost within the grasp, break down because of "stomach trouble." He had theorized the saying that the "weakest must go to the wall," into the saying that "the man with the weakest stomach must go to the wall" because no man is stronger than his stomach. The man who will learn this lesson of success has taken a great stride to his goal. Health is the first prerequisite of success and health in general means a sound stomach and a good digestion.

Look at the logic of the matter. Food is a man's life, his strength. Physical life is sustained by food. But the fact that a thing can be eaten doesn't make it food. Many a physician practising in the tenements of a city says of failing men or women, "What they need is nourishing food." Shipwrecked men eat scraps of leather, the bark of trees, anything to satisfy hunger. But this is not food in any true sense because it contains no nutrition. All food must be considered in relation to its nutritive value. When the stomach and the allied organs of digestion and nutrition are diseased the nutrition contained in food is imperfectly extracted and the body fails of nutrition adequate to its needs. The shipwrecked sailor living upon scraps in which there is no nutrition is on a level with the man who eats abundant nutritious food but whose stomach with its allied organs is diseased and therefore fails to extract from the food eaten the nutrition which is the body's need.

SOUND STOMACH, SOUND MAN.

That is almost an axiom. The man with a sound stomach and good digestion will in ordinary be a sound man, because the nutriment of food is the life and strength of heart, lungs, liver, kidneys and every organ of the body.

The first need of a weak man is to look after his stomach and his digestion. There is the common seat of physical weakness. How weak men have been made strong; strong of heart, liver, lungs, kidneys, and other organs by being made strong of stomach and strong of digestion has been told thousands of times by those who have used Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery.

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let, those downcast orbs, that mass of wavy brown hair and tightly folded hands over the throbbing bosom! The gateman mouthed something and the train slowed. Dick arose with a sigh, but not quickly enough. Alice had sprang before him as if in frantic haste to be well out of the one place in all the world where she wished she were not. Closely he followed, impelled as by a superior force. The crowd closed in behind, forcing him forward. At the door both paused, the man's bent form so close to hers now that she thought she felt his hot breath upon her throbbing neck, and it thrilled her. The train gave a sudden lurch. Up shot the thin hand to the strap above, missing it. Back she fell, and for one delicious moment that cluster of brown ringlets nestled as of yore against the broad shoulder, and his crimson cheek was buried in a maze of fluff and feathers. It was a revelation, like the quick intervention of Providence at the most critical pass in two destinies.

There was a sudden rally, without apologies. The gates opened and the young woman plunged from the car like a phantom, Dick fast in pursuit without knowing why. He was as one hypnotized. Was this indeed the very last time he should ever meet the former darling of his love? Would a nod, a smile be out of place—a glance of the eye to let her know that all was forgiven? But then, why should he vouchsafe it, and how could he do so? Down the stair she led him a chase with that irregular tripping that recalled their mountain jaunts of old when hand in hand they roamed the forest like spirit-children bound in reciprocal devotion of innocence, too happy not to pay for it dearly in after years of disillusion and longing. What a rush of tender memories, vivid episodes and merry adventures—a pastoral drama of love and hope punctuated with laughter and song! How changed was it all now! And yet Dick found himself following whithersoever she led, even as of old, with almost no power within him to stay a step nor turn aside. Suddenly, just as he reached the street, the pursuer uttered a queer exclamation, clapping his hand to his throat with almost tragic motion. Too true! His ruby pin, once a crown jewel of an Indian rajah, presented to him by an English nobleman who had been his Wall Street client, and worth a thousand dollars if a farthing, was gone, and Alice was the thief!

There could be no doubt about it, for was there not the evidence before him? Dick was in a quandary, redoubling his steps. The perspiration gathered at the temples and trickled down his crimson cheek. What conspiracy of the guardian destinies had brought to pass this amazing episode, of all times and of all people the most dramatic? It was growing darker

now; and lest he lose sight of the runaway who turned not to vouchsafe him one encouraging look, Dick hurried forward almost at her very heels, keeping his eye upon her from a two-fold compunction now. What was he to do? Dared he steal up and recover his own, almost without her knowing? It seemed the only thing to do; and midway down the quite deserted block he quickened his step, then put forth his hand stealthily.

There was an angry command and a rough hand clapped upon him from behind. Dick struggled aside, and Alice turned with a startled look to discover her lover of old in the firm grip of a towering policeman.

"I admit the evidence," replied the embarrassed captive to the hard accusation. "But if you are looking for the real thief, there she is!"

In benumbing consternation the accused faced the pair, then with the rigidity of offended dignity she exclaimed, gathering closer, "What do you mean, sir? I—a thief?"

"Unconsciously," said the broker bowing, "but, nevertheless, if taking by force and stealth what does not belong to one constitutes a theft, I pronounce you guilty. Reach your hand around to your back hair, and you will find entangled there a ruby scarf pin worth a king's ransom to me. You see, when you fell against me in the 'El-car', the pin caught among the ringlets—"

"Oh, Dick, Dick! It is true. How wonderful!" Approaching in all contrition now, the gem gleaming its crimson rays like an inspired drop of blood from the palm of her gloved hand, she added, "It's all a mistake, officer. I am so sorry, Dick, really I am."

"You almost make me wish I were sorry myself, but truly I'm not. Officer, have a cigar. Oh, I say, Alice. Don't run away from me like that." The broker saluted the astonished man in blue and hurried on to the fleeting girl's side. "Alice, Alice!" he called softly. "I have so much to say to you—"

She turned upon him with her sweet face expressive of inner tumult. "What is it now?" she murmured in a voice tremulous with tears and just a little reproachful. "Have I stolen anything else of yours?"

"Yes, Alice you have," he answered solemnly, "and quite as innocently. But I fear the charming offence is outlawed, it happened so long ago, you know." He took her hand and drew it through his arm, crushing it close to him lest she resist. "At any rate, if all larcenies brought about such a grateful denouement as this—" He paused, turning to glance courage and devotion once more into the downcast face. "Shall we go to the opera to-night, Alice, dear?"

The Rajah's ruby is a solitary ring now.

Dr. McGregor and Henry LaCoste.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY FREDERICK E. BURNHAM.

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INSPECTOR Harvey of the Bank Squad was leisurely returning to police headquarters one afternoon, when his attention was called to a well-dressed gentleman who had every appearance of being some prosperous business or professional man. While at another time the inspector might not have given the man more than a passing thought at most, on this particular day he glanced sharply at him, wheeled and followed, wondering the while what there was about the man that interested him. Before the detective had gone three blocks the light came—the man he was following was a notorious bank robber and sneak thief, for whom the police and detective force of several cities had been searching a year or more.

Just as the man was entering a building the inspector laid his hand on his shoulder, his other hand seeking his own hip pocket, for Henry LaCoste was a desperate man, ready to murder the individual who stood between himself and liberty.

"LaCoste, you are wanted at headquarters," said the detective, tightening his grip on the man's shoulder.

At the first word the detained man leaped as though stung, but it was only for an instant.

"Errors will occur," said he, his voice admirably controlled, "my card, no doubt, will satisfy you that you are mistaken in your man, sir."

ALEXANDER J. MCGREGOR, M. D.

64 LEXINGTON STREET,
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

The above was the card which the suspected man politely tendered the inspector, the while smiling sarcastically. The detective, however



was far from being convinced that he had made a mistake. He believed that the man before him was the much wanted Henry LaCoste, and despite the vehement protests of the alleged physician he locked arms with him and started for headquarters.

"An arrest that does you credit, John," said the captain, the prisoner having been positively identified as the notorious bank robber Henry LaCoste. "I shall not forget the service."

The following day, however, a most astounding piece of news reached headquarters, something that caused the captain to color clear to the roots of his hair. A dispatch from Philadelphia stated that Henry LaCoste had died six months previous at a hospital in that city, that papers had come to light within a week through the hospital authorities, which proved conclusively that LaCoste would trouble the police no more.

The Captain of Police was convinced, but not Inspector Harvey, and though the prisoner was immediately released from custody, he made it his business to shadow the man he had arrested, and before a week was over he had learned much of his life, which, while proving that Dr. McGregor's life was not that of an upright man, did not establish that which the inspector believed—that a mistake had been made and that Henry LaCoste was still in the land of the living, passing to and fro among the people as a physician. He learned that Dr. McGregor had had an office on Lexington Street for several years, and this fact staggered the detective, positive as he was that he was right in the arrest which he had made.

The detective acknowledged that he was in error, but having learned somewhat of Dr. McGregor's life during that week, came to the conclusion that if the man could not be held as Henry LaCoste, he could be arrested as a criminal who was trading in Henry LaCoste's footsteps. A package of one hundred ten-dollar bills had mysteriously disappeared from the cashier's window at one of the leading banks. No one saw the theft occur and the bank officials were at a loss to account for the disappearance of the money. The package was lying upon the counter within the wire grating and no person was seen to enter or leave the bank between the seeing and missing of the money by the cashier, save a depositor—Doctor Alexander McGregor. Other robberies occurred, some of them bearing all the thumbmarks of Henry LaCoste, and strangely enough Dr. McGregor was close at hand when these latter were committed. That the doctor was the thief, there was no doubt in the inspector's mind; the point was—to catch him in the act.

Dr. McGregor had a servant in his employ from whom the detective learned several facts connected with the physician. The detective contrived to see him alone one morning and the information that he gained, while interesting to the detective, shed little light on the case.

"The master is not the man I used to know," said Feeley, the servant, "the doctor is no longer here; some other man is in his place. Nothing is as it was then."

"I do not understand you," said the detective, "what do you mean when you say that somebody else is here in the doctor's place?"

"I mean what I say," replied Feeley, "something strange, something I can't describe, happened here some six months since. I was through with my work and had gone to my room one night feeling at peace with the world. Just as the clocks were striking twelve I heard a slight sound in the hall, and the next instant the laboratory door was softly opened and closed again. The same sound I have heard hundreds of times at all hours of the night, but somehow on this particular night I felt a cold shiver go over me and I sat up in bed listening. It was not long before I heard another sound that stirred me as nothing had in the past. A chair was tipped over and I heard master's voice calling as though in great distress. Not stopping to dress I rushed from my room, merely carrying a stove poker, and as I bounded over the stairs I heard master's voice again as though pleading with some one to leave him alone. Not stopping to knock I made bold to enter the room and there found master resting against the fireplace, at least I thought it was master, until he spoke to me. 'Keep out of this room in the future,' said he, advancing to meet me, and frightened by his looks I hurried away."

"The following day this strange man who had taken master's place, who looked like master, but did not talk or act like him, refused to see any of the patients that came to the office, and from morning till night he sat there by the fire, shaking and shivering, cursing me whenever I came near."

"Does this man seem to be well supplied with money?" asked the detective, "and does he settle with you as well as your old master?"

"Oh, yes, he always has money, far more than the master I used to know; rolls of bills, and he thinks nothing of slipping an extra five dollars into my hand of a time when he is feeling good-natured, but with it all, I would sooner know one little finger of my old master, than have things as they are."

From the day of this interview with the servant, the inspector shadowed his man more closely than ever, and the longer he followed him, the more he was convinced that however mistaken he was at the start, he would eventually round up a rogue of the first water.

Finally things came to a head. A wealthy man had been held up not ten rods from Doctor McGregor's office, and resisting, was murdered. The detective was several blocks away, but arrived on the scene in time to see the assassin disappear through the door of Doctor McGregor's office.

One glance at the prostrate figure upon the sidewalk told the inspector that the man was dead, a savage knife-thrust having done the work. The first thing to accomplish was the arrest of the murderer before he had an opportunity to escape. It would be dangerous business and the inspector knew enough of desperate men to appreciate his peril, but the detective was not the man to flinch, and without hesitation he ran to the rear of the house, aroused Feeley, who was dozing over the fire, and pressed on through the house to the laboratory, followed closely by the servant.

Within the laboratory some one was moving, presumably the murderer, and throwing open the door, the detective advanced with drawn revolver to arrest his man.

With a howl of rage the assassin sprang at the detective, a knife flashing in his right hand. A flash and report from the detective's revolver was the answer, and the man dropped in his tracks.

Summoning Feeley to his assistance, the detective with some difficulty carried the wounded man across the room to the lounge, and having dispatched the servant for a physi-

cian, turned his attention to the man he had shot, for in the excitement of the moment he had scarcely learned whether the man was dead or alive. A brief examination, however, convinced him that though the man was alive, death was not far away.

Suddenly the wounded man moved convulsively, opened his eyes and looked questioningly about the room and at the detective, as though unable to understand what had occurred. At the same time the detective became aware of a wonderful change in those windows of the soul, the eyes. That uneasy, sly and finally murderous gleam had disappeared, and in its place an eye clear and kindly, met the detective's. Then, too, it seemed as though the lines of his face were undergoing a change, for when Feeley returned with a doctor it was as though another had changed places with the wounded man, and Feeley's exclamation of astonishment and delight showed that the detective was not alone in observing this.

"My master! My master has returned!" said Feeley, dropping by the wounded man's side, "come back to die," he added as he understood the meaning of the terrible pallor that had overspread the face.

"Sir," said the dying man, addressing the detective, "I desire to say a few words before it is too late in reference to a remarkable experience that it was my misfortune to go through some months since."

"I was seated in my laboratory here one evening, I think it was near the hour of twelve, and was deep in thought over a critical case which I had in mind, when I was aroused by a hand being laid upon my shoulder. Supposing that it was Feeley, here, I turned to ask him what he desired. What was my astonishment, and indeed, horror, to find myself face to face with an uncanny visitor who stood in threatening manner over me. I sprang to my feet and demanded the intruder's business."

"No word was spoken, but it seemed as though the unearthly being were laying hold of me, clutching me by the throat, choking and tearing me to pieces. The struggle must have created some audible disturbance, for Feeley suddenly rushed into the room. He came too late, however, for the strange being, I might name him, for I know his name only too well, was Henry LaCoste, who had died in the flesh that very night, had complete possession of me, and I sternly ordered him out of the room."

"It seemed as though a spirit of unrest and desire for thieving had possession of me from that day. I was no longer Doctor McGregor, but rather, Henry LaCoste, and I lived even as LaCoste, the bank robber and sneak thief had lived."

"I can say little more, for I feel my strength going and all will soon be over, only this, that I am convinced that naturally I bore a remarkable resemblance to LaCoste, and that when his spirit took possession of me, I took on his voice, his manner of living, and in a word his complete personality. From that day till the moment I was cut down, here in this room, I was no longer Doctor McGregor, but as I said before, LaCoste. But with the approach of death I find that the being that has dominated me has departed. I—"

For a moment the dying man was silent, as though unable to complete the sentence he was about to utter.

"Thomas," said he at length, turning to Feeley, "remember—remember me—as—"

Death was hovering very closely above its victim, "as Doctor McGregor."

An Unexpected Listener.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY ELLA F. MOSBY.

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HE thrilling adventure which my story relates, happened to Mary Page during her second year as a Missionary in the East. It was a hot day; not a breath stirred the great palms in the Sultan's gardens. Mary had been teaching with her father all the morning at the Mission-House and as she sat down in the little American rocking chair that the native children all loved to ride so soon as they grew bold enough to venture, a pang of acute loneliness filled her eyes with burning tears. She could see so clearly

ly the brook that ran from the upland pastures, dewy and fresh, down through the Long Meadow, and hear the song sparrow singing his ecstatic melody.

Her little room was bare and hot, white-washed for sanitary reasons, the glare burnt her eyes, even though the blinds were down except on the side next to the royal garden. She loved to see the feathery fronds of the palms and the top of the peep-tree there and to hear the distant splash of the royal fountains. There was a little door in the wall and often the children of the Sultan's household would be allowed to come with their obsequious dark attendants to the residence of the Missionary whose daughter was permitted to give two of the younger boys lessons in English, and was sometimes summoned to the women's apartments in the palace when they grew weary of their more familiar amusements. The children liked her music for "Mem Sahib Miriam" had a violin of a sweet and mellow tone as if many and many a sunny noon had given it sweetness, and she could play soft and wistful lullabies and slumber-songs upon it. She loved the religious music of Handel and Haydn and many a lovely air sounded softly in the little bare room, while the dark children

and their slaves squatting on cushions or on the floor, listened with wide-open eyes and gleaming white teeth.

There was one little boy, Lalli, a beautiful child but not strong, whose litter had been thrown down in some panic during a pilgrimage to a famous shrine, and who had been badly hurt in the crush that ensued. He could not walk yet, but Dr. Page, at once missionary and physician had him in his care by the especial favor of the Sultan, and hoped much to effect a final cure. He had had a pair of tiny crutches made for the little prince, which he was beginning to use with much dexterity. Lalli was fond of power and self-indulgent, but he was affectionate, and had a wonderful sensibility to music. However weary Mary was, she would always play for him and try to solace his hours of suffering, and the child had more than once stolen away from his nurses and come to seek her.

A day or two ago an embassy had arrived from one of the "little kings of the East" some royal or sultan of a tiny domain. Mary had been kept awake by the barbaric music of the processions, the buzzing, squeaky, drumming noise the natives, like children delighted with a clatter, call music, and with this mingled deep growls from the animals in two or three strong cages, fastened on bullock carts—the reluctant gift of the jungle to the court. For an hour or so after the torches, musicians and carts had vanished, she heard the *thud, thud*, of bare feet or the slide of sandals on the streets, and the excited chattering of the natives, pleased with the show. Lalli had not been to see her since. Doubtless he had received special gifts, for his mother was known to be a present favorite. However, he could not long absent himself from the violin.

Mary smiled as she rose and taking down the violin from its place on the wall, began to play a cradle hymn that she had heard her own mother sing often and often in the twilight, a simple melody, but it expressed the longing of a simple and humble soul after the higher things of eternal life, a melody that was half a prayer. Her arm fell to her side and she stood in a reverie, half sad, half sweet, when a sudden sound made her start with terror. She had left the low window open next to the gardens, and what she heard was the low, frightened cry of a child and the click, click of Lalli's crutches. He was on the window-ledge, and by the aid of one crutch sprang inside. He made one attempt to draw close and fasten the blind, but it was in vain, and he caught Mary's dress with one trembling hand, gazing terrified over his shoulder as if at something that pursued him.

Mary instinctively thrust him behind her for protection, and at the same moment the opening was darkened and with a low growl a striped and tawny animal, the Royal Tiger sent to the Sultan and escaped from its cage, leaped into the place the boy had occupied the instant before.

He was a beautiful creature, rich in color, graceful and flexible in movement and with a noiseless step as if "shod with silence." His fiery eyes were wide open and round, not contracted into narrow slits like the green eyes of our household cats in the light.

Mary's violin was still in her hand, held against her shoulder in a half-caressing attitude. She remembered having read of the strange influence of music over beasts and as the tiger opened its lips in a savage snarl at Lalli's cry, she drew the bow slowly across the strings and began playing a low, soft slumber song.

The tiger slowly descended to the floor, and as Mary played, walking to and fro, she contrived to keep Lalli on the farther side, and to move nearer and nearer the door. The tiger followed her, pacing slowly and at times purring and rubbing his great head, in evidence of his pleasure, against the folds of her dress.

Mary still played—played lullabies, hymns, melodies of tender and soothing sweetness. She dared not turn her head but she heard the door open and close—Lalli was safe! God be thanked!—but how long could she continue this? Her arm ached, her head whirled, but at every sign of relaxation on her part the tiger moved more restlessly. Suddenly the door burst open, something whizzed through the air and she fell back in a dead faint just as the native keepers, summoned by Lalli, secured the power ul brute, struggling with his lasso and growling furiously.

Mary had played before many a "select audience" before, but never had known such approval as her unexpected listener, the Royal Bengal Tiger from the Sultan's gardens, had vouchsafed her.

St. Vitus Dance. One bottle Dr. M. M. Fenner's Specific cures. By mail. Send for Circular, Fredonia, N. Y.

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The Washington Portraits.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



immortal Father of his Country. The accepted picture of the illustrious Washington is what is known as the Stuart portrait, and is now owned by the Boston Athenaeum, and held at the Museum of Art in that city.

Notable as this is as a portrait, and familiar as it is to people in all countries as the accepted likeness of Washington, it varies from his other portraits to a very high degree, and does not closely resemble either his life mask, or the statue which was taken from life by Houdon, the French sculptor. It is said that Mrs. Washington herself never considered this picture a likeness of her husband. It is said of a certain late President of the United States that no picture that was made of him during his two administrations showed his face as it was, but rather as smoothed and idealized; and familiar as his face is to all readers, from his long career as President, an actual view of this illustrious man would show to any observer the great difference between the living features and the commonly accepted and somewhat idealized portrait.

It is to be remembered that at the time of Washington, there was no way of transmitting to posterity the features of any person except by the limner's art. Photography, or even daguerreotypes, had not been invented, and no accurate way of producing the features had come into vogue. The most common way of obtaining a picture at that time was a reduced silhouette.

Silhouettes were obtained in two ways; either by casting the profile of the face required upon a curtain or piece of paper, and drawing an outline which was subsequently reduced, if necessary, or else by cunning artists cutting with scissors a piece of white paper to show the features of the subject.

In every city, town, and village, were to be found portrait painters of greater or less repute, who made it a business to produce alleged likenesses of any persons who were able to pay. In the smaller places, these painters usually combined this high order of art with the more material work of furnishing



STUART'S POPULAR WASHINGTON.

portraits for signs for inns, ordinary lettered signs, and even to the painting of buildings themselves; but in the larger cities many artists were painters of the highest order, and produced wonderful likenesses of their sitters, but such painters obtained great celebrity, and the price which they asked for their work placed it far beyond the reach of any but the very rich.

In thinking of Washington, it should be remembered that at no time was Washington ever a poor man. Reared the son of one of the largest proprietors in Virginia, where immense fortunes for that time were easily made, and where the people lived in a degree of luxury which was hardly equalled in any part of the world, from his youth up he was surrounded by works of art and as many luxuries as were obtainable in this new world, which mainly depended for such things on the markets of London. It was customary in those days, in sending shiploads of tobacco and other produce to England, where the market was, to commission the captain to buy things to bring out on his return voyage; so that in addition to the numerous supplies necessary to the colonists, as they grew richer and in better circumstances, it was customary to furnish the new American homes with objects of art and luxury, books, etc., obtained in London; and even today are to be found both in Virginia and New England,

hundreds of objects of art and utility, which were brought out to the colonies from England in the old packet ships.

To resume, then, it must be remembered that Washington throughout his life was surrounded by the usual surroundings of culture and refinement. His beautiful estate at Mt. Vernon is today one of the most beautiful sights in America, and shows in its restored condition an idea of what elegance and grandeur it must have had during the life of Washington, when filled with objects of art and value.

It was therefore natural that a man who had become one of the richest proprietors in America, and whose fortune would have been large in any part of the world and whose fame as a statesman had reached every part of Europe, should have been the object of every portrait painter of renown. Naturally America in those early days possessed comparatively few artists of great celebrity, but some had attained fame; and to these, and to a few foreigners who came to this side of the water, we are indebted for a number of portraits of this great chieftain.

So frequent were the visits of these artists, and so importunate were they, that even Washington grew impatient; and as early as in the spring of 1785, he wrote to a friend in a letter still existing:

"I am so hackneyed to the touches of the painter's pencil that I am altogether at their beck, and sit like patience on a monument while they delineate the lines of my face. It is a proof of what habit and custom can effect. At first, I was as impatient at the request and as at the request under the operation as a colt is of the saddle. The next time I submitted very reluctantly, but with less frowning. Now, no dray moves more readily to the thill than I do to the painter's chair."



THE SECOND STUART PORTRAIT.

It is certain that from his youth to the very edge of the grave, his features were reproduced by artists and sculptors of all degrees of fame, who desired to make some lasting memento of his face. It was a task of no little time to paint a good picture, requiring a number of sittings, and then much elaboration in the studio; so that when it is told that there are no less than thirty known to be authentic portraits of Washington, and an innumerable lot of portraits which may have been original or copies of others, or partly original and partly copied, it seems wonderful to think how so busy a man could ever have devoted the time to this occupation. It is certain that for twenty-six years of his life an average of more than one authentic portrait a year was produced from life sittings; and even to this late date, every now and then in some foreign collection will appear some colored or black and white reproduction of these well-known features, which in a way all resemble each other, and yet are strangely dissimilar.

In addition to the numerous paintings, drawings and silhouettes, it must be remembered that there are a large number of more or less authentic busts, bas reliefs and casts of Washington's face.

Of this great array of pictures, we can produce only a few. The initial cut at the head of the piece is of the English coat of arms of the Washington family, which was retained by Washington as a seal for legal papers throughout his life. The Stuart picture, above referred to, is the most world famed portrait of Washington; and is, as above noted, the commonly accepted features of him; but the original was held unfinished through life by Stuart, although he had copied it fully three hundred times, making slight variations from the original unfinished portrait in the replicas that he finished for various parties. Stuart was born in Rhode Island in 1755, and died in Boston in 1828. He was far ahead of other American artists of that period, and especially in portrait painting, in which he excelled. This portrait of Washington, which we call Stuart second, was painted at an earlier date than that commonly accepted, and is generally accepted as a better specimen of Stuart's art than its more famous companion.

The large picture which is published is known as Washington as a Youth. It is the earliest portrait of Washington known to exist, and was the first of many Washington pictures painted by a noted American artist by the name of Peale. Peale was a lifelong acquaintance of Washington, and undoubtedly knew his face better than any other artist. So far as can be learned by tradition and writings, the immediate family and friends of Washington considered Peale's likeness unapproached by other artists. In the present picture, Washington is represented in the uniform of a Virginia colonel, consisting of a blue coat with



PEALE'S WASHINGTON AS A YOUTH.

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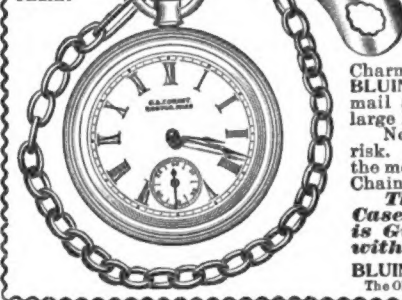
This wonderfully and beautifully colored lithograph representing a tug of war between playful kittens and puppies is well worthy a prominent place in every home. The picture itself is over one yard long and is printed on the finest of heavy copper-plate paper in colors true to nature. It must be seen in all the beautiful harmony of tints and coloring to be appreciated. A Limited Number of these pictures on hand. YOU may have one (only) by asking at once.

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This Cut is 1-2 Actual Size of Watch and Chain.



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We send this Nickel-Plated Watch, also a Chain and Charm to Boys and Girls for selling 1 1/2 dozen packages of **BLUINE** at 10c. each. Send your full address by return mail and we will forward the Blaine, postpaid, and a large Premium List.

No money required. We send the Blaine at our own risk. You go among your neighbors and sell it. Send us the money that you get for it and we send you the Watch, Chain and Charm, prepaid.

This is an American Watch, Nickel-Plated Case, Open Face, Heavy Bevelled Crystal. It is Guaranteed to keep Accurate Time, and with Proper Care should last ten years.

BLUINE CO., Box 418 CONCORD JUNCTION, MASS.
The Old Reliable firm who sell honest goods and give Valuable Premiums.

scarlet facing, scarlet waistcoat and breeches, with a purple scarf suspending his sword. The silver gorget around his throat is still preserved in a collection in Massachusetts. This painting is still in existence, and has come in a direct line of Washington's relatives to its present owners.

In this connection it would be well to note that Washington left no immediate heirs, and that through quarrels over his estate the personal belongings and furniture at Mt. Vernon were sold at auction with indecent haste, and scattered throughout the colonies.

The last picture published in this small collection is a copy of a hasty sketch by a French artist named St. Menin, who is supposed to have made it about one year before Washington's death; and so far as is known, it is the last likeness ever taken of him, with the exception of the death mask.



WASHINGTON'S LAST LIFE PORTRAIT.

The last picture published in this small collection is a copy of a hasty sketch by a French artist named St. Menin, who is supposed to have made it about one year before Washington's death; and so far as is known, it is the last likeness ever taken of him, with the exception of the death mask.

AN ASTHMA CURE AT LAST.

It gives us great pleasure to announce the discovery of a positive cure for Asthma, in the wonderful Kola Plant, a new botanic product found on the Congo River, West Africa. The cures wrought by it in the worst cases, are really marvelous. Sufferers of twenty to fifty years' standing have been at once restored to health by the Kola Plant. Among others many ministers of the gospel testify to its wonderful powers. Rev. J. L. Combs, of Martinsburg, W. Va., was perhaps the worst case, and was cured by the Kola Plant after fifty years' suffering. Mr. Alfred C. Lewis, Washington, D. C., Editor of the Farmers' Magazine, gives similar testimony as do many others. To prove to you beyond doubt its wonderful curative power the Kola Importing Co., No. 1164 Broadway, New York, will send a large case of the Kola Compound free by mail to every reader of COMFORT, who suffers from any form of Asthma. They only ask in return that when cured yourself you will tell your neighbors about it. You should surely try it, as it costs you nothing.

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I will guarantee to cure the worst case of Rheumatism. I do not ask you to send me one cent. Send me your name and address. Chas. L. Frye, 82 Lincoln St., Room 1, Boston, Mass.



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SEND NO MONEY, cut this advertisement out and send to us and we will send you this **OUR HIGH GRADE DROP HEAD SEWING MACHINE** FREE. **QUEEN SEWING MACHINE**, by freight, C. O. D., subject to examination, exactly as represented, equal to the highest grade sewing machines advertised by other houses at \$20.00 to \$30.00, and as good a machine as you can buy from your dealer at home at \$30.00 to \$40.00. The greatest bargain you ever saw or heard of, pay your railroad agent our **SPECIAL OFFER PRICE OF \$11.25** and freight charges. Give the machine three months' trial in your own home and we will return your \$11.25 any day you are not satisfied. **OUR \$11.25 NEW QUEEN** is covered by a **BINDING 20-YEAR GUARANTEE**, is made by one of the best sewing machine makers in America, has every new and up-to-date improvement, high arm, positive four-motion feed, very light running, does any work that can be done on any sewing machine made. It comes in a beautiful solid antique oak, drop head cabinet, as illustrated. Oak cabinet is beautifully finished, highly polished, elaborately finished throughout.

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ORGANS & PIANOS of fine tone, elegant finish and thorough workmanship, shipped on 20, 30 or 60 days free trial at one-half dealers prices. We ask not one cent in advance. **Pianos from \$122.75 up. A \$300 Kenwood Piano \$150. A \$75 Organ \$30.** All instruments fully guaranteed. **High Grade** quality beautiful mahogany finish, of sweet tone, a fine instrument, with extra set of strings and Book of Chords, fully guaranteed; equal to any retail at \$6.00, our price only \$2.99. **Stradivarius Model Violin** and outfit complete, sold by dealers at \$5.00, our price \$3.15. **Mandolin**, dealers price \$6.00, our price \$3.00. **Handmade** violins, guitars, canoes, Graphophones and all kinds of music instruments shipped direct at lowest wholesale prices, C.O.D. without one cent in advance. Write at once for large illustrated catalog free. **Cash Buyers' Union, 160 W. Van Buren St., B-5, Chicago**



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Around About Salem.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8.)

the ministers of Salem was called, and the children were declared to be under the influence of witchcraft. A poor, bedridden old woman named Osborn and another poor old body named Sarah Good, who was a kind of a vagrant, were accused of having bewitched the children and the poor creatures were hanged for the crime the following July. But this did not cure the "afflicted children," who continued to scream without apparent cause and do all sorts of strange things. Urged to name those who had bewitched them they named persons of great prominence and the highest character. Among those named by the children was Dame Martha Corey, an elderly woman, the wife of Giles Corey, one of the most prominent men in Salem. She had been outspoken in her denouncement of the folly of anyone believing in anything so absurd as witchcraft, and this had caused her to be regarded with much disfavor and also with suspicion. She was promptly arrested when the "afflicted children" accused her of having bewitched them, and when brought into the presence of the children they immediately began to scream as if in great agony, as well they might had they had any realizing sense of all that they were bringing upon the good woman. Martha Corey was tried, and even her own husband gave evidence that helped to condemn her. She was executed and, later, her husband was arrested for witchcraft and he too suffered death. Eight persons were executed on Gallows Hill one September day in the year 1692, but we are glad to record that they were the last persons executed in the colony, although others were arrested and thrown into prison. The craze lasted for about six months, but during that short time hundreds of persons were thrown into jail and unspeakable suffering was caused in many homes.

The strange conduct of the two little girls who had caused so many arrests was still, in the minds of many, unaccounted for, but it is now supposed that it was a sort of hysteria caused by nervousness and excitement. Rumors of witchcraft were afloat and the children had heard their elders talking of the strange things done by those supposed to be bewitched. It is probable that the nervous and excited children had lain awake nights thinking of all they had heard, and they no doubt thought they were really bewitched. It is to the credit of some of those who were the most pronounced believers in the delusion that they afterward confessed publicly their profound regret for any part that they had had in the conviction of the supposed witches, and they sincerely mourned the lamentable results of their folly.

There is much to be recorded to the credit of Salem. None of the people were more patriotic or courageous than were the people of Salem in the time of the Revolution. They vigorously opposed the unjust Stamp Act, and they were among the first to make armed resistance against the British government when the injustice and oppression of that government became unbearable. The old town has been visited by Washington, Lafayette and many of the most distinguished persons connected with American history.

The town has been the home of many of the most distinguished literary men of America. Prescott, the historian, Judge Story and his son the poet and sculptor, lived in Salem, and one may see here the house in which Nathaniel Hawthorne was born, and the house in which his wife lived before her marriage, the house in which he wrote his most famous book, the "House of the Seven Gables" that gave the title to one of his stories, and the custom house in which he was employed while he was writing that book.

One may see the house in which Hawthorne's mother lived when she became a widow with several little children. It was of one of the rooms of this house that Hawthorne wrote in after years: "If ever I should have a biographer, he ought to make great mention of this chamber in my memoirs, because so much of my lonely youth wasted here, and here my mind and character were formed; and here I have been glad and hopeful, and here I have been despondent. And here I sat a long, long time, waiting patiently for the world to know me, and sometimes wondering why it did not know me sooner, or whether it would ever know me at all—at least until I were in my grave. By and by the world found me out in my lonely chamber, and called me forth, not indeed, with a loud roar of acclamation, but rather with a still, small voice, and forth I went, but found nothing in the world that I thought preferable to my old solitude."

The museums of Salem are rich in relics of bygone days, and there is no town in America in which the visitor, young or old, can spend a day with greater interest or profit. One must be charmed with the quaintness that still lingers in the older parts of the town, and with the wonderful beauty of the great Atlantic as seen from Salem's rocky shores.

When is a President Elected?

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



THE newspapers all said that William McKinley was re-elected president of the United States last November. Was this really so? Few people stop to think of, even if they know anything about the complicated machinery which really elects the president of this country.

What were really elected in November were the electors who are to elect the president. These men for each state are equal in number, as most persons know, to the number of representatives and senators which that state has in Congress. That is, the great state of New York has thirty-four congressmen and two senators, and hence has thirty-six electors in the electoral college, as the body is called which elects the chief magistrate. A state which has only one congressman has three electors, one for that official and one for each of its two senators.

The way in which these electors shall vote has been carefully directed by the Constitution. It is also stipulated that no senator, or congressman, or person holding a position of trust or profit under the United States government can be chosen as an elector.

These electors meet in their own states and vote for president and vice president there. The Constitution prescribes that at least one of the men they vote for shall not live in the same state as the men voting. This removes the possibility of having the president and vice president come from the same state. They vote by ballot, and after they have voted must make lists of the result of the votes. These lists must be signed, sealed and disposed of as follows:

The electors must make three of these lists, which are all signed and certified to, and then sealed up separately. The electors then choose one of their number who is to travel to Washington and in person deliver one of the lists to the President of the Senate. The second list is sent to the same official through the regular channels of the Post Office, and the third is delivered to the judge of the district in which the electors meet. Being appointed messenger to carry the vote to the President of the Senate is no empty honor, since the man who carries it receives "twenty-five cents for every mile of the estimated distance by the most usual road from the place of meeting of the electors to the seat of government of the United States." The bill of the men who bring the votes of Washington and Oregon is no small one, while if the time ever comes that Alaska, the Sandwich Islands and the Philippines are entitled to representation, even much greater amounts will be required.

The law provides that the electors must meet and vote on the second Monday in January following their appointment by the people at what is usually known as the "November presidential election." The law also provides that Congress must be in session on the second Wednesday in February following this meeting of the electors. The members of the Senate and the House of Representatives meet together on that day, at 1 P. M., in the hall of the House of Representatives. The President of the Senate presides over this union meeting. Two tellers are appointed on behalf of each branch of Congress. The President of the Senate opens all of the returns which have been brought to him and hands the papers to these four tellers. They arrange the papers in alphabetical order, so that the count will begin with letter A. The tellers then read the lists aloud and make a report to the presiding officer of the results. This officer then declares who is elected president and vice president of the United States.

Usually, of course, this counting in Washington is only a cut-and-dried affair, but this has not always been the case.

Previous to 1804 the electors voted for two persons as candidates for president. The one who received the highest number of votes became president, and the one who had the second highest number became vice president. In 1804 the Constitution was amended so that the electors voted for both of the officers separately.

The Constitution provides that if the electors do not succeed in electing a candidate, the election passes into Congress. In 1824 there was no choice and the House of Representatives elected Adams. Various other complications have arisen at different times. In 1817 objection was made to admitting the vote of the State of Indiana, on the ground that this was not a state at the time the electors were chosen, although afterwards becoming so. The vote was finally admitted. In 1857 the vote of Wisconsin was objected to because on account of a violent snow storm in that state the election was held on the day following the one appointed by law. In this case, also, the vote was finally admitted. This was when Buchanan was a candidate.

In 1872, General Grant and Horace Greely were the candidates. Greely died before the time in 1873 when the votes were to be counted, and objection was made to counting the votes cast for him on this account. At that time the Senate and the House disagreed as to which course was the right one to follow in this matter.

The closest contest in the history of the country was in 1876, when Hayes and Tilden were the candidates. There was a dispute over the votes of Florida, Louisiana, Oregon and South Carolina. The dispute was referred by Congress to an electoral commission of eight republicans and seven democrats, which by a strict party vote declared all of the doubtful states republican. The closeness of the contest can be seen from the fact that this decision gave Hayes only 185 votes while Tilden had 184. Every one who remembers the state of uncertainty under which the country labored through all the long winter while this contest was being decided, will rejoice that the election just passed was so conclusive that the matter was settled once for all.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections; also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 847 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

FREE KIDNEY CURE

Cures every disorder of the Kidneys, Lame Back, Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Bladder Troubles and even the hopeless cases of Bright's Disease and Diabetes. Trial packages of this remarkable remedy are now being mailed free to every sufferer sending name and address to the Peruvian Herbal Remedy Co., 963 Second National Bank Building, Cincinnati, Ohio. Do not delay but write today. It may save your life.

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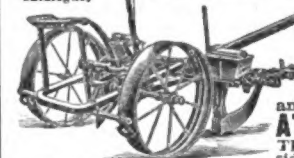
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an Upholstered Morris Reclining Chair; a set of three Austrian Hand-painted Vases; two pairs of Royal Lace Parlor Curtains, newest design, for selling our Aluminum Thimbles.

There is no chance or deception about this advertisement. We speak the truth and guarantee to do just as we say. **We don't ask a cent.** We are determined to introduce our thimbles into every family, and every person answering this advertisement, who will sell only 30 Thimbles, will receive our generous offer of a Handsome Upholstered Morris Chair, and a set of three, new design, Austrian Hand-painted Vases, and two pairs of Royal Lace Parlor Curtains, new design, three yards long, 56 inches wide, with three of our Sash Curtains, equal size, which we give **absolutely free** for selling only 30 Thimbles at 5 cents each. Send name, post-office address, and nearest express or freight depot, and we will send you the Thimbles. When sold you send us the \$1.50, and we **guarantee** that if you comply with the offer we shall send you with the three Sash Curtains, the Upholstered Morris Chair and the three Austrian Hand-painted Vases will be given **absolutely free**.

This is a rare chance for ladies to beautify their homes with useful and beautiful articles, from an old and reliable concern, noted for square and honest dealings. If you comply with the offer we shall send you, the Chair and Vases will be given free. This is a handsome and comfortable Chair, made of polished antique oak or mahogany. It is covered with high-grade velvet, with handsome patterns, in light, dark or medium red, green or brown. The seat cushion is 21 x 21 inches, and the back 20 x 30 inches, and is an all-wool-filled cushion (not stuffed with cheap excelsior). The back is adjustable to four positions; carefully packed and shipped from factory by freight to your address. The Vases are gems. Any newspaper will tell you that we are reliable. Don't wait. Write to-day and get the premiums quick.

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Catalogue.

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AT \$16.95 we furnish this Two-Horse Corn Planter without Check Rower. **AT \$23.85** we furnish it complete with Check Rower.

The Check Rower is the highest grade made, made of few parts, not complicated. One side is always at rest. Stroke positive every time button passes through fork. Forks are made of soft center steel, carefully hardened, and are wide enough apart to prevent kinks in wire from making a stroke. The wire is of finest quality, and with ordinary care will last many years. **OUR SPECIAL \$16.95 AND \$23.85 PRICES** are based on the actual cost to produce at our factory in central Ohio, with but our one small profit added, less than dealers can buy in carload lots.

THIS TWO-HORSE CORN PLANTER is put out under our binding guarantee as the highest grade corn planter made. Made of the very best material that can be procured and only skilled mechanics are employed. Constructed entirely of steel and wrought iron, malleable and charcoal iron castings, and will outwear any other two-horse corn planter made. It is a full hill combination planter. Can be used either as a hand drop drill or a check rower by only changing the plates. The frame is coupled close, giving the driver full and easy control. The forcing lever is attached to the two hounds which are placed at an equal distance from the runners, so that both runners are forced into the soil at equal depth. The drill is adjusted to different positions by changing the chain tension on different size sprocket wheels on the rear axle without changing plates. The drop is simple and sure. The succeeding hills drop down separate channels, and are held at the heel of the runner, ready for prompt deposit when check rower is operated. **Combination hand and foot lever is furnished**, so that the planter can be rigidly set to the desired depth, or can be run flexibly and under easy control of the driver's feet, allowing him the full use of his hands for taking care of team. **THIS IS THE VERY LATEST FOR 1901.** It embodies all the latest improvements of all strictly high grade planters, with the defects of none. **For One-Horse Corn Planter Catalogue, Address,**

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The Chinese Boreas have caused a heap of trouble to poor old China with its five hundred Million Souls. Uncle Sam is on the inside however and he has the world both in diplomacy and gunboats. A cute Yankee has devised a happy SAN TOY comic figure from the idea of China's fall. It is called **The Dying Chinese**. It is made to represent the typical Chinaman with his long braided queue. His head is made of rubber which is inflated at the top until it swells and swells to give him the BIG HEAD you need so much about. As you release him he smites all over his fat chops and his cheeks were full of rice—then you stand him on the floor and he begins to totter. He totters, then with a weird shriek over he goes and falls with a last drawn squall and a pinched up agonized face, symbolic of a dying race. So China in spite of its great two-thousand-year old wall totters to the wall with a wall. It is a funny yes, awful, awful funny toy yet so symbolic of history. Get one, or even better, a dozen and amuse yourself, your friends and your neighbors and you can make lots of money selling them too. We send one free with a 6 mos. 15c. subscription to our bright monthly or send 25c. for a full year's subscription, and we send two free, postpaid, 5 for \$1.00. You sell them from 15c to 25c, each according to locality. Remember these are no small affair, they stand over a foot high, are made of unbreakable material and will prove the 20th century wonder. Get your order in early they sell quick. Address **GOLDEN MOMENTS, Box V, Augusta, Maine**



CHINA'S FALL AND SQUALL.

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Get one, or even better,

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GOLDEN MOMENTS, Box V, Augusta, Maine

Cupid in Colors.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



IN the eastern district of Brooklyn N. Y., is one of the largest valentine factories in the world; from here every year millions of valentines are sent out for sale all over the world, though ninety-nine and one-half per cent of them are used here in this country. And each February approximately \$3000.00, and as much more for postage are spent on these little paper trifles. Some are of paper, some of satin, and all with gaudy pictures of distorted cupids or other sentimental devices.

In this factory the busiest month is January, but 400 girls and men are employed the entire year in making these things which are of value only for one day.

There are three classes, therefore three departments; lace, novelty and comic.

In the lace-room is a unique machine; a cylinder containing the design is inserted under which passes the paper which is cut and embossed as it revolves. The operator pulls out these strips of lace paper by the yard which are then cut into sections and pasted on cards. There are anywhere from 100 to 200 different designs ranging in price from \$.02 to \$.50.

The novelty-room employs 30 or 40 girls and often 20 different hands are employed in the manufacture of one valentine. These novelties are more expensive than the lace-paper, being made of silk, satin or celluloid; of these there are 100 different kinds varying from \$.50 to \$5.00. Last year and the year before there were thousands made to be sent to Cuba, Porto Rico and to the Philippines.

The third variety, comic, is to the refined mind a waste of money. Yet it is computed that 20,000,000 of them are sent annually.

In the department for making these there are a number of presses where thousands of the 500 different designs are printed each hour.

There are two men employed in designing them. The artist is a magazine illustrator, and a Harvard College man makes the verses to go under their flashy pictures.

Comics are most popular in the west. The sale in New England and the south being comparatively small.

The trans-continental freight is so high that commerce for San Francisco is shipped by sailing vessels around Cape Horn, from four to six months ahead of time. These "penny-dreadfuls" are comical only to the sender, and to the recipient only offensive.

If we would remember the 14th of February in any way—out of respect to Saint Valentine let us distribute that day, instead of these vulgar paper trifles, words of good-will, that there may be more rather than less sunshine.

The Salt Fish Industry.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



LOUCESTER! Known from one end of the earth to the other for its fishing industries. A city of brine and salt. Its odor reaches the nostrils ere the city limits are touched, and the word Gloucester springs unbidden to the lips of the stranger.

The writer spent a day recently among the fish-houses and wharves that form an almost unbroken line along the water front, and through the courtesy of several merchants gained an excellent idea of the manner in which the salt fish business is carried on today.

I learned that most of the firms engaged in the curing of fish own from three to a dozen vessels which constantly ply between the port and the fishing-grounds. There are the "shackers," or hand-line, those carrying trawls and the "bankers." The first two make trips of from three to four weeks and carry ice, while the latter are gone from three to six months and carry salt.

It is customary aboard the "shackers" to cut the tongues from the fish as fast as they are caught, thus bleeding them and at the same time furnishing a convenient means of keeping account of each man's catch. These fish are considered the finest brought in, the bleeding producing a whiter fish.

The principal fish brought into Gloucester are cod, haddock, hake, pollock, cusk, mackerel, halibut and herring. Of these, the first five are cured in two ways—dry salted and pickled.

The dry salted come in all salted; are weighed and piled in a high pile. As soon as convenient they are placed upon the flakes, (long racks) and covered with cotton cloth, held by frames about a foot from the fish, thus protecting them from the direct rays of the sun; here they remain from two to four days, according to the weather conditions. The fish are next wheeled under cover and piled up again where they sweat for forty-eight hours, after which they are placed again upon the flakes and aired for another day; they are then ready for the market.

The pickled cured are weighed as soon as they are landed at the wharf and placed in large boxes where they are washed. They are next packed in hogheads or "butts" as the fishermen term them, first a layer of fish and then a layer of salt; twenty-four hours later these hogheads are full of strong brine, the fish making its own brine. The fish remain in this pickle from ten days to five months, according to the wants of the firm. When it is deemed advisable to complete the curing they are taken out of the brine and piled up for forty-eight hours. From one to two days on the flakes completes the process and this kind is ready for shipment.

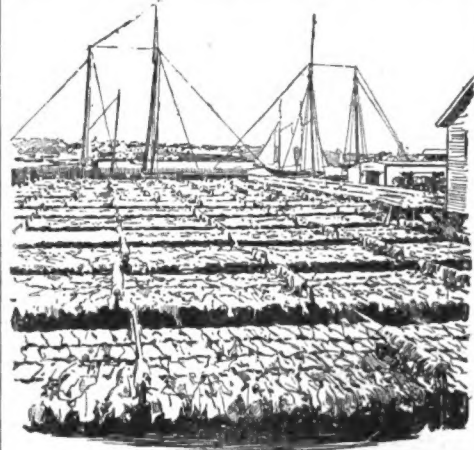
Halibut are brought in fresh, the long bone cut out, and the sides intended for smoking placed in pickle where they remain from ten days to a fortnight. These strips are hung in the smoke-house and a fire of chips and sawdust produces a dense smoke which cures the halibut in from two to four days.

Mackerel are generally seined today. A school of the fish is sighted and a net perhaps two hundred and twenty-five fathoms long and one hundred fathoms deep is placed about it. Sometimes the fish are too quick for the fishermen and escape before the net can be closed up; at other times a catch is made amounting to several hundred barrels. The mackerel are split down the back and salted in barrels in much the same manner as the fish already described.

Herring are both smoked and salted, the process being much the same as that already described relating to halibut and mackerel, save that in both cases they are cured whole.

Within a few years an extensive business has grown up hand in hand with the salt fish industry; I refer to the preparing of boneless fish. The fish comes to the firm pickled cured, only this kind being suitable for this purpose. Each fish is skinned and the backbone removed, after which the fins are pulled out, and if the fish is to be sold under the head of absolutely boneless fish, short bones that were not removed at first are cut out. A machine cuts the fish up into oblong strips and these pieces are sent to a room where women and girls pack it into iron moulds, and a pressure of over a ton produces a compact brick of one, two or three pounds weight, as the case may be. It is then packed in boxes and shipped.

It is not many years since the government paid a bounty to every man that shipped aboard a fishing vessel for a period of four months or more, but though this has been done away with, there is little difficulty experienced in securing men to make up a crew. The business is a dangerous one and full of hardships, but going as the men do on shares, the chance of earning large dividends is too much for the fisherman, and whatever the dangers he laughs



UPON THE FLAKES.

at them and is off. It is a noteworthy fact that the rank and file of the fish merchants of Gloucester have followed the sea in earlier years.

DISCOVERED BY A WOMAN.

I have discovered a positive cure for all female diseases and the piles. It never fails to cure any of the various diseases peculiar to women, such as leucorrhoea, displacements, ulceration, granulation, etc., or the piles from any cause or in either sex. I will gladly mail a box of this wonderful medicine free to every sufferer. Mrs. C. B. MILLER, Box 106, Kokomo, Ind.



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Cleanses and beautifies the hair. Promotes a luxuriant growth. Never Fails to Restore Gray Hair to its Youthful Color. Cures scalp diseases & hair falling. 50c. and \$1.00 at Druggists.

Reversible LINENE Collars and Cuffs.

Stylish, convenient, economical. Made of fine cloth, finished in pure starch, and exactly resemble fashionable linen goods. No Laundry Work When soiled discard. Ten Collars or five pairs of Cuffs, 25cts. By mail, 30cts. Send 6 cts. in stamps for sample collar or pair of cuffs. Name size and style. REVERSIBLE COLLAR CO., Dept. K, Boston, Mass.

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THE ACORN LAMP
Underneath & overhead generators. MAKES ITS OWN GAS At a Cost of One Cent for Ten Hours.

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ACORN BRASS WORKS, Dept., 14, Chicago, Ills.

\$6.98 BUYS A REC- FEED CUTTER

SEND NO MONEY if you live within 500 miles of Chicago, (if further send \$1.00). Cut this ad. out and send to us, and we will send you this FEED CUTTER by freight C. O. D., subject to examination, you can examine it at your freight depot, and if found perfectly satisfactory and the greatest value you ever saw or heard of, pay the freight agent our SPECIAL PRICE OF \$6.98 and freight charges, less \$1.00 if sent with order. The cutter weighs 165 lbs. and the freight will average about 75 cents for each 500 miles. THIS IS THE CELEBRATED DAILEY CUTTER for cutting hay, straw or fodder. The frame is heavy, made of solid seasoned hardwood, with finished. Comes with 1 1/2 inch gauges Eger steel knife, made with improved adjustment to cut 1 1/2 or 2 inches; malleable hopper, extra heavy balance wheel, perfect adjustment, the lightest running, largest capacity, and most durable 165-pound cutter ever made. WRITE FOR CATALOGUE OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS. Address: SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO.

HERE IS HEALTH

These Four New Preparations comprise a complete treatment and cure for nearly all the ills of life.

The Emulsion of cod liver oil is needed by some, the Tonic by others, the Expectorant by others, the Jelly by others still, and all four, or any three, or two, or any one, may be used singly or in combination, according to the exigencies of the case.

Full instructions with each set of four free remedies, represented in this illustration.



EDITOR'S NOTE.—The Slocum System is medicine reduced to an exact science by America's foremost specialist, and our readers are urged to take advantage of Dr. Slocum's generous offer. It is the treatment that cures Consumption.

THESE FOUR REMEDIES

Represent a New system of treatment and cure for the weak, and those suffering from wasting diseases, weak lungs, coughs, sore throat, the grip, catarrh, consumption and other pulmonary troubles, or inflammatory conditions of nose, throat and lungs.

The treatment is free. You have only to write to obtain it.

By the system devised by DR. T. A. SLOCUM, the great specialist in pulmonary and kindred diseases, the needs of the sick body are supplied by the FOUR distinct remedies constituting his

Special Treatment known as the Slocum System. Whatever your disease, one or more of these four remedies will be of wonderful benefit to you.

According to the needs of your case, fully explained in the treatise given free with the free remedies, you may take one, or any two, or three, or all four, in combination.

The ailments of women and delicate children are speedily relieved.

The four remedies form a bulwark of strength against disease in whatever shape it may attack you.

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To obtain these four FREE preparations, illustrated above, that have never yet failed to cure, all you have to do is to write mentioning COMFORT in which you read this article, to

DR. T. A. SLOCUM, 98 Pine Street, New York, giving name and full address. The four free remedies will then be sent you, in the hope that if they do you good you will recommend them to your friends.

LADIES I Make Big Wages AT HOME

and you can readily do the same, for the work is pleasant and will easily pay \$18 weekly. I have often made \$5 a day. Even your spare time is valuable. This is no deception. I want no money and will gladly send full particulars to all sending 2c stamp. MRS. A. H. WIGGINS, Box 8, Benton Harbor, Mich.

LOTS OF MAIL FREE

If you wish to receive lots of mail and samples free put your name in our Agents Directory, which goes to thousands of firms who will mail you free samples of Agents Goods of every description, including Medicines, Books, Pictures, Novelties, Magazines, Cards, Household Articles, Wholesale Catalogues, etc. You will receive bushels of valuable samples. We must have 100,000 new names at once for our Agents Directory, and to secure them quickly we will send you by return mail free all the following merchandise: Six separate books printed on nice paper and neatly bound; 6 agents articles, retail 25c each; 25 colored portraits of U. S. Presidents; 25 portraits of Famous Stage Beauties; 13 popular songs with words and music; 1 Used Stamp Value Guide, showing prices paid for cancelled U. S. postage stamps; 1 colored map of the United States; a Story Magazine 4 months; a large catalogue of 1000 bargains and a \$1.00 Due Bill which entitles you to \$1.00 worth of goods free whether you buy anything or not. Send us your name to-day, and enclose 10 cents to help pay postage, packing, etc. Money cheerfully returned immediately if you are not delighted. U. S. AGENTS DIRECTORY CO., 373 Dearborn Street, Dept. 90, Chicago, Ill.

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SEND NO MONEY, and we will send you this fine SINGLE BUGGY HARNESS by express C. O. D., subject to examination. You can examine it at your express office, and if found perfectly satisfactory and equal to harness that retail at \$12.00 to \$15.00, the greatest value ever seen, pay the express agent \$7.95 and express charges. OUR SPECIAL PRICE... \$7.95 which are 40 to 75 cts. THIS IS AN EXTRA HIGH GRADE, reliable single breast collar, bridle, 8-inch box loops, round winker brace, patent leather blind, over check or side rein, fancy front and initial letter rosette; trimmings, extra heavy alerak plate or Davis black rubber as desired. ORDER AT ONCE and save at least \$6.00. Write for Free Harness and Buggy Catalogue, Address: SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO, ILL.

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AMERICAN MADE BREECH LOADER. AUTOMATIC SHELL EJECTOR. GENUINE TAPER CHOKE BORED. MADE FOR LONG RANGE SHOOTING. WONDERFUL PENETRATION AND TARGET. SPECIAL PRICE, \$4.95

GUARANTEE. This Long Range Marvel Gun is covered by a binding guarantee, by the terms and conditions of which if any piece or part gives out by reason of defect in material or workmanship, we will replace or repair it FREE OF CHARGE. With care this Long Range Marvel is made for us under contract by one of the best gun makers in America. It is offered as one of the highest grade, strongest, hardest shooting, best made and most durable single barrel breech loading shotguns on the market. It is made from strictly high grade material, made by skilled mechanic. It is a machine made gun, with all parts interchangeable, made on the very latest model for 1901. It embodies all the up-to-date high grade points of all strictly high grade single barrel American made guns, with the defects of none. For rapid loading, two shots can be fired very nearly as quickly as from a double one may be quickly inserted. THIS GUN IS MADE FOR EXTRA LONG RANGE SHOOTING. The barrel is of high grade Wilson steel. It is choke bored by the celebrated taper system, and bored especially for white or black powder as desired. It is made heavy at the breech to give it STRENGTH AND RECOIL. WE FURNISH THIS LONG RANGE MARVEL in 30 or 32-INCH BARREL, as desired; in 12-gauge only. Weight, 6 1/2 to 7 pounds. Comes with an extra quality walnut stock, pistol grip, latest top snap break, barrel and mountings beautifully case hardened and finished. MADE EXTRA STRONG AT ALL ESSENTIAL POINTS, accurately adjusted and gauged barrel selected, bored, fitted and strengthened at breech, with a view of giving GREAT PENETRATION and killing at a longer range THAN ANY OTHER SINGLE BARREL GUN ON THE MARKET. OUR SPECIAL \$4.95 PRICE is based on the actual cost of material and labor, with but our own small percentage of profit added, and when you see and examine this gun, if you do not say it is such a gun as was never seen in your section at anything like the price, you can return it to us at our expense of express charges both ways. WRITE FOR OUR FREE CATALOGUE of guns, rifles, revolvers, fishing tackle, seines, tents, nets and other sporting goods. Address: SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO, ILL.

SEND NO MONEY

If you live within 1,000 miles of Chicago, if further, send \$1.00, mention No. 34091, and we will send you this genuine American breech loader, accurately adjusted and ejecting, long range MARVEL SINGLE BARREL SHOTGUN by express C. O. D., subject to examination. You can examine it at your express office and if found perfectly satisfactory, exactly as represented, one made and the greatest bargain you ever saw or heard of, pay the express agent \$4.95 and express charges, less \$1.00 if sent with order.

OUR SPECIAL PRICE, \$4.95 and express charges, less \$1.00 if sent with order.

A GENEREROUS OFFER!

George B. Wright Discovers a Cure for Lost Manhood and Sends it Free to Every Sufferer Who Will Write For It.

Gratitude is one of the noblest impulses of the human heart, and in few instances has this fine quality been so conspicuously exemplified as in the case of George B. Wright, of Marshall.

Mr. Wright is a merchant and well known citizen of Marshall, Mich., who was permanently cured of lost manhood and nervous debility after declining health for years. He now devotes his life to helping other men who suffer as he once suffered. Mr. Wright offers to send the medical prescription that effected a cure in his case to every reader of COMFORT who is suffering to-day as he suffered. All who will drop him a letter asking for a copy of the prescription will receive it by return mail free of charge.

The following editorial by A. N. Tally, M. D., regarding Mr. Wright's prescription for lost manhood, appeared in the December issue of the *United States Health Reports*, published at Washington, D. C.:

We, as the highest American authority on all matters of Health, Sanitation and Hygiene, are constantly receiving letters of inquiry about a reliable cure for lost strength in men.

Therefore we have ordered an investigation to be made into the subject and our Medical Staff found there were many so-called cures on the market but that many were worthless and some actually harmful. Therefore when we came upon the prescription furnished free by George B. Wright, a merchant of Marshall, Michigan, we instituted a most thorough laboratory examination and found that its wonderful efficacy depended upon its being exactly compounded according to proper chemical requirements in order to establish the proper chemical actions and reactions in the human system and that it should especially, and above all, contain each and every ingredient named in the prescription, otherwise it would be quite inactive and worthless.

Properly mixed and containing everything called for in the prescription, its effect upon the nerve centers is truly wonderful and its nerve tonic properties easily surpassed all ordinary methods of medication.

Among the benefactors of the race may be mentioned the said George B. Wright, inasmuch that he gives this grand discovery free to all who write for it.

Taken according to directions it builds up the weak and restores to full size and vigor the nerve muscles. It brings hope and cheer and lifts up the discouraged man so that he once



G. B. WRIGHT.

more enjoys the beauties of nature and the pleasures of life. Failure in business and love surely falls upon him who is weakened physically and mentally and this sad condition is at once relieved and a new man made of him who uses this prescription.

Therefore, upon the highly favorable report of our Medical Staff we extend to George B. Wright's Prescription for Lost Manhood the full editorial and official endorsement of the *United States Health Reports*.

As certain as a wound leaves a scar, and as

sure as effect follows cause, do men live to repent their follies and indiscretions in weakness and suffering. The tortured sufferer may bear no tell-tale marks of ruin upon his face to betray his lost manhood. He goes to his grave a human wreck, and never tells of his sufferings for fear of shame. Such mental anguish at times drives him to the verge of desperation, and he is easy prey for those vultures in human form—quack doctors—who hold out alluring hopes of cure only to disappoint, and after robbing him of his money, plunge him into absolute despair.

No one can appreciate these horrors of lost manhood except he who has suffered them. No one can help such sufferers except he who knows a cure and has himself been restored to full manhood. A notable cure of lost manhood in an extreme case was effected in the person of George B. Wright, a music dealer and well known citizen of Marshall, Mich. Mr. Wright for years suffered the agony of lost vital power. He saw his physical power go from him as the result of insidious disease, until he was reduced to a condition of senility, and the best doctors in the country gave him up to die.

Like many others, he tried the various remedies offered by specialists for the treatment of weaknesses peculiar to men, and it was this experience that drove him to a little study and research for his own benefit.

He asserts that his 10 years' suffering, both mentally and physically, was turned to unbounded joy in a single night through a rare combination of medicines that literally made him young again. It is the prescription of this discovery that his enthusiasm leads him to offer free to any man, young or old, who feels that his animation or the fire of ambition has left him and needs something that will brace him up and enable him to be prepared for any undertaking which may present itself.

There is no question but what in his individual case the results were just as described, and it seems quite probable that any man who believes himself to be weak may profit by sending for his free prescription. Many people wonder how he can afford to send this prescription free, but it costs him little to do so, and he feels a philanthropic interest giving weak men an opportunity to cure themselves.

A request to G. B. Wright, music dealer, Box 855, Marshall, Mich., for his free prescription will be promptly and privately complied with by return mail.

Around About Salem.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



ALTHOUGH it is still one of the quaintest towns in New England, the Salem of to-day bears little resemblance to the "Naumkeag" of two hundred and more years ago, for Salem was at first called Naumkeag, which name was changed to Salem soon after the settlement of the place, Salem being an abbreviation of Jerusalem and its meaning "peace", but one has only to recall its fearful witchcraft days to know that Salem has not always been a place of peace. It has known as much of unrest as any other New England town, but its aspect today is one of peace and prosperity.

The history of the old town of Salem dates back to the year 1626, when one Roger Conant and a few English farmers and fishermen came up from the dreary Cape Ann region to "view the land" and perhaps begin a new settlement if their discoveries warranted them in doing so. These exploring wayfarers found that the Indians called the tract of land on which Salem stands and the surrounding country Naumkeag. Two years later there came to Naumkeag the noted Captain John Endicott with about one hundred followers and a charter from the English company that laid claim to the territory. Endicott had been appointed governor, and from that day to this the Endicotts of Salem have been one of the best known of American families.

Within less than a year there had been "a faire house newly built for the governor," and a number of other rough but comfortable houses had been built, for the governor was a man of energy and his followers were industrious and ambitious men and deeply pious withal. The founders of the town were eager that it should be a goodly place, and there was not among all the Puritans then in America a man of more serious and genuine religious principles than Governor John Endicott. He had the full sympathy of the English company in his efforts to give a deeply religious tone to the community, as we may know from the fact that the directors of the company sent him the following instructions regarding the proper observance of the Sabbath:

"To the end the Sabbath may be celebrated in a religious manner, we appoint that all that may inhabit the Plantation, both for the general and the particular employments, may surcease their labour every Saturday throughout the year at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and that they spend the rest of that day in catechising and preparing for the Sabbath as the ministers shall direct."

We are glad to make record of the fact that these first settlers of the town were entirely just and honest in their dealings with the Indians. It is certain that a man of John Endicott's character would have been so of his own

accord, but he had also these instructions from the company he represented:

"If any of the savages pretend right of inheritance to all or any part of the lands granted in our Patent, we pray you endeavour to purchase their title, that we may avoid the least scruple of intrusion."

Had all the newcomers to America pursued this fair and just policy many a fearful massacre might have been averted, and many a blot on the roll of our country's history would be obliterated.

In June of the year 1629 the population of Salem, or Naumkeag, was more than doubled by the arrival of four Non-conformist ministers and more than two hundred immigrants, but later about one hundred left Salem and founded Charlestown, now one of the largest suburbs of Boston. Soon after the arrival of the ministers referred to the first church was organized and the Rev. Samuel Skelton was made pastor, while the Rev. Francis Higginson was made teacher or assistant pastor, for it was for a long time customary to elect with the pastor a teacher or assistant pastor. Governor Bradford came from Plymouth to assist at the installation of Mr. Skelton, and thirty persons signed the covenant of the First Church of Salem. This may be regarded as one of the most important events in the religious development of our country.

A meeting house was built in 1634. It was a shabby little building of logs with a thatched roof and a stone chimney, but it gave the Puritans who built it more joy than they could find in any of the grand churches they had left in their native land because they found "freedom to worship God" in their own way and according to the dictates of their own hearts in the little log house in their new home. The meeting house was but seventeen by twenty feet in size, but it had a little gallery to increase its seating capacity. If you were to visit Salem you could there see the solid oaken timbers of the inner part of this little church within a more modern outside covering. This is one of the most highly treasured of the ancient landmarks of Salem.

In this church might have been seen the singular spectacle of the constable going around during the sermon with a long pole from the end of which there dangled the tail of a fox. The sleepy-heads and the inattentive were



WITCH HOUSE.

called to the duty of listening to the sermon by having the fox's tail tickle their faces. No matter how many hours long the sermon may have been it was expected that even the small boys and girls should give close attention to it.

In 1634 there came to Salem that remarkable man, Roger Williams, afterward the founder of Rhode Island. It was Roger Williams who aroused the antagonism of the authorities and of even the ministers by declaring that "no human power has the right to intermeddle in matters of conscience and that neither church nor state, neither bishop nor king, may prescribe the smallest iota of religious faith. Man is responsible to God alone." He tried to impress upon his hearers a sense of this responsibility to God, and he left a never-to-be-forgotten impression on the religious history of our country. After the death of Mr. Higginson Roger Williams became minister of the First Church in Salem. He remained pastor of the church until he was banished from Salem by the General Court because of his outspoken utterances regarding the authority of the magistrates. One may still see in Salem the dwelling house of Roger Williams, but only the inner timbers belong to the original house which is known as the Witch House, because there lived in it during the time of the witchcraft delusion Judge Corwin, before whom some of the supposed witches were tried in this house.

No lover of the good name of his country can recall the great witchcraft delusion without a feeling of sorrow and shame that such scenes could have been enacted in our country as were enacted in Salem. But superstition ran rampant in both the Old and New England at that time, and some strange and evil power seemed to have taken possession of the imagination of even the best and wisest men in both countries. No one can doubt that the people of those days were sincere in their belief in witchcraft, but this fact does not lessen our regret, nor did it lessen the sufferings of the nineteen persons hanged on Gallows Hill because they were supposed to be witches. It should be remembered, however, that Blackstone, Matthew Hale, Bacon and other of the most prominent legal authorities had declared that witchcraft was a real thing and they had given decisions against those accused of it. The best known ministers

1901 LACE VALENTINES. 1901 Beautiful new designs, Lace borders, the most exquisite assortment of valentines we ever offered and the most for your money. Six for five cents. COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

OUR \$7.95 DINING ROOM SET. REGULAR \$15.00 SUITE FOR \$7.95. SEND NO MONEY cut this ad. out and send to us, we will send this complete suite of seven pieces to you by freight C. O. D., subject to examination. You can examine them at your railroad station, and if found perfectly satisfactory and exactly as represented, the greatest furniture value ever offered by us or any other house, the equal of anything you can buy from your dealer at home at double the price, then pay the freight and OFFER PRICE \$7.95 and freight charges. The complete outfit weighs for 200 miles, 75 cents; 400 miles, \$1.25. If you live within 400 miles of Chicago, send no money with your order; if further, send \$1.00, (balance payable after receipt.) THIS TABLE IS A HANDSOME NEW DESIGN FOR 1901, made of best selected and thoroughly seasoned ash, finished in antique oak, six dining chairs as illustrated, new 1901 pattern, high back, richly carved and ornamented, fancy turned rope spindles, Size of top, 42x42 inches. The legs are iron bolted. Furnished complete with extra leaves to make the 6-foot table, and complete with extra room chair. Taking the output of one of the largest table and chair factories, figuring on the basis of the actual cost of material and labor, with but our one small profit added, we are able to name this heretofore unheard of \$7.95 price. ORDER AT ONCE. DON'T DELAY. An advance in material would compel us to advance the price. ADDRESS: FURNITURECATALOGUE. SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., Chicago, Ill.

and the wisest men in both England and America were firm believers in it, and Governors Endicott, Winthrop and Bradstreet had sentenced witches to death. The famous Cotton Mather had published a book proving, or seeming to prove, the actual existence of witchcraft and the entire sentiment of the time was in favor of the belief in this monstrous folly.

It was in the year 1691, when Salem was a flourishing town of nearly two thousand inhabitants, that the little daughter of the Rev. Samuel Parris and his little niece, Abby Williams, girls of nine and eleven years, were supposed to have been bewitched because of their strange actions. They would crawl under tables shrieking and acting as if they were in the greatest distress. They would jump up and down screaming at the top of their voices and conducted themselves in a manner that would have caused the bringing forth of the rod of correction had they lived in a latter day. But instead of the rod and a much needed command to stop such nonsense, a conference of

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

Cures Goitre

A well known Cincinnati physician has discovered a remedy that cures Goitre or Thick Neck. And to prove this he sends a free trial package, so that patients may try and know positively that Goitre can be cured. Send your name and address to Dr. John P. Haig, 972 Glen Bldg., Cincinnati, Ohio, and he will forward a trial treatment by return mail.

..PUMPS AT CUT PRICES.. WE SELL CISTERN PUMPS AT \$1.10 AND UPWARDS; House and Stock Pumps, \$2.85 up; Chain and Purifying Pumps, \$2.75 up. FOR SPECIAL INSIDE PRICES and full descriptions on all kinds of pumps, pipes, pump rods, cylinders, fittings, etc., cut this ad. out and mail to SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO, ILL.

FREE Clairvoyance. If sick or ailing send now, name, age, sex, lock of hair and 2 stamps to DR. D. Hinkly, 110, Grand Rapids, Mich.

FREE RUPTURE CURE! If ruptured write to Dr. W. S. Rice, C. Main St., Adams, N. Y., and he will send free a trial of his wonderful method. Whether skeptical or not get this free method and try the remarkable invention that cures without pain, danger, operation or detention from work. Write to-day. Don't wait.



EDITOR'S NOTE. The following rules govern the publication of matter in this department.

Contributors must without exception be regular subscribers to *Comfort*, and every contribution must bear the writer's own name and post-office address in full.

Original letters only, which deal with matters of general interest, will be published. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them, and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may reach six hundred and fifty words. Contributors must write on one side of the paper only.

\$10 CASH PRIZES \$10.

The following cash prizes will be paid monthly:

1st. For the best original letter	\$3.00
2nd. " " second best original letter	2.50
3rd. " " third " " "	2.00
4th. " " fourth " " "	1.50
5th. " " fifth " " "	1.00

Competitors for these monthly cash prizes must comply with all the above rules, and in addition must bring at least one new cousin into the *Comfort* circle; that is, they must send one new subscriber with each letter, together with 50 cents for a yearly subscription.

These cash prizes will be announced monthly in this department.

No premiums will be given for subscriptions sent in under this Prize Offer.

All communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva, care of *COMFORT*, Augusta, Maine.

CASH PRIZE WINNERS.

George Jones,	\$3.00
Alice Pierson,	2.50
Arthur W. Letson,	2.00
Belle Taylor,	1.50

DEAR NIECES AND NEPHEWS:

Welcome February! Dear to the heart of every loyal American as the birth month of the "Father of His Country", and doubly dear this year because we have just (December 12, 1900) celebrated the hundredth anniversary of the removal of the seat of Government from Philadelphia to the new city, then just laid out for the express purpose of a capital for the United States and called by the immortal name of the man who was then and is still "First in the hearts of his countrymen", George Washington.

To realize how that city has developed in the single century which has elapsed since its inception one has only to read of the state of Pennsylvania Avenue in those days—a mere bog with no sidewalks and no drainage, with cows, horses, pigs and chickens turned loose upon it, and then contrast it with the beautiful city of today with its broad, asphalt, tree-shaded avenues, its stately buildings and its magnificent parks. Surely we have every reason to be proud of our growth as a nation, for the improvement here is only in step with the onward strides of the whole country.

Our first letter today is on Oregon fish and fishing, and the author says:

"In that beautiful poem, 'Thanatopsis', Bryant, the author, said,

'Or lose thyself in the continuous woods
Where rolls the Oregon, and hears no sound
Save his own dashings—'

"These are beautiful words in a beautiful poem, but could the Columbia river, which he calls the



TROUT FISHING IN OREGON.

Oregon, hear today, it would hear something more than its "own dashings". It would hear not only the shrieks of steamboats and locomotives and the general din of civilization, but also the constant dip! dip! dip! of many fishwheels, revolving down stream, and turned by its swiftly flowing current. These wheels remind one of whirling flutter-mills placed in creeks by small boys. They are each strongly hung at the end of a large flat-boat, and revolve on a sort of double spindle like the wheel of a wheelbarrow. Imagine three of the ordinary tops of covered buggies arranged an equal distance apart, in circular formation, and revolving on a double spindle, so that the downward current of the water strikes the back of each cover, taking it under and up again, and you have a pretty good idea of what a fishwheel looks like in action. Of course wire netting is used instead of the oilcloth of the buggy cover, and as the salmon come up the stream and the wheel turns down stream, they run unconsciously into these revolving baskets, and are whirled up in a half circle and

dropped into a trough, down which they slide into a hollowed part of the boat.

"Columbia river salmon are the finest in the world, and thousands of dollars' worth are taken yearly in this way. An equal or perhaps a greater number are dragged out with seines; but one of the easiest and best methods of taking salmon is with a gill net. A net probably a hundred feet long and some ten or twelve feet deep is knitted and set in the water, floated by wooden corks, and having a lead line to hold it stiff in the water. As the salmon come up stream they run their heads into the meshes of these nets, and are like spears thrown into soft wood. The spear will penetrate all right, but in pulling it out the barbs catch, and extrication is difficult. So with the salmon. If he attempts to back out his gills spread and hold him fast. He cannot go forward for his body grows larger from the head back to the middle fin. When a salmon gets into one of these nets, the corks directly over him on the surface of the water will droop lower than the others, and an experienced fisherman can often count his fish by the number of drooping corks.

"Trout fishing in Oregon is the finest sport imaginable. Take your bamboo fishing rod, fly-book, and a general equipment, and go back where a blue stream comes laughing out of the mountains, and if you are any kind of a fisherman whatever you will soon be in a sort of private dreamland. Drop a fly hook on the water and drag it toward you, and a dozen heads will shoot out all at once, with eyes in them that sparkle like rubies. Some will jump clear out of the water and turn somersaults, and the hook will quickly go under in a hungry mouth. Pull that one out and drop him struggling into your basket, then repeat the cast, and if luck does not desert you your basket will soon grow burdensome with its weight of speckled beauties.

"Rudyard Kipling gives in his American Notes a vivid description of a day's fishing which he had on the Clackamas, a beautiful little Oregon stream, in which he gives his opinion that as a sport the world offers no better."

Geo. Jones, Roseburg, Oregon.

I think all lovers of boys—certainly all who wish to see them develop into good, honorable men—will be interested in the following letter.



"At Annapolis Junction, about half way between Washington and Baltimore, has been established a branch of the well-known Boys' Republic of Freeville, New York. Upon our visit there, last spring, we were met at the station by Mr. Rogers, the superintendent, who had brought conveyances to take us to the farm where the Republic has its home. After a ride of about twenty minutes through country roads bordered with broad stretches of fields and shady woods, the carriage drove up before the farmhouse. It was a low, old-fashioned building, shaded in front with magnificent oak trees; all around, to an extent of fifty acres, stretched the farm lands, now green with newly sprouted vegetation, now brown where it was freshly plowed. To the east of the house we could see a young peach orchard, which, Mr. Rogers said, had been newly planted by the boys.

"The idea of the Republic seems to be to make the boys into good citizens by taking them away from city temptations, giving them plenty of health-giving outdoor work, teaching them independence by requiring that they work for what they have, and, finally, teaching them their country's laws and government by having them form themselves into a republic modeled on our own. So far, both here and in Freeville, the plan has worked with wonderful success.

"At the time of my visit twenty boys were living here. They came from Washington and Baltimore and are children whose parents are either unable or unfit to give them proper care and training. Sometimes they are truants from school or have been up once in the Police Court for a petty offense; but the Republic is in no sense a reformatory. When a boy enters the Republic, regular work is assigned to him, for which he is paid at the rate of ten cents an hour. The work consists of some hoeing, weeding, some housework and, in fact, all the lighter farm work, the heavier part being done of necessity by grown men. From two to three hours of each day are spent in the schoolroom and for this time it has been found necessary to pay the boys. They are paid too for holding public offices, which are nearly the same here as in the United States. From the money thus earned the boys pay their board, five dollars a week. In the Republic, however, five dollars does not mean the same as it does in United States currency. Instead, a system of aluminum money of the same denominations as ours is used. This is redeemable, when a boy leaves the Republic, at a rate of five to one in United States money.

"Besides the big farmhouse, which is the main living house, we were shown the temporary jail, a small wooden building of one room containing eight or ten narrow iron beds. The prisoners we saw working at the wood-piles; they were clothed in the regulation stripes and were watched over by two policemen.

"An interesting feature of our day was a visit to the court, which was held that afternoon. Court is held once a week and then all the offenders arrested during the week are tried. About a half dozen boys were brought up while we were there, one for stealing eggs and feeding them to the pigs (!) and another for talking to the prisoners and fighting. The judge, a bright boy of fourteen, managed affairs in as businesslike and methodical a way as an experienced magistrate. He reproved one prisoner, fined another, sent a third to the workhouse in default of a fine, and still another to prison. The penalties inflicted are, if I am not

mistaken, one fifth of those awarded under the Maryland laws. On the whole, the theory and practice of the Boys' Republic seem eminently calculated to turn out intelligent and self-respecting citizens of the larger Republic."

Alice Pierson, Washington, D. C.

From Michigan to Mexico is a long step, and from a mint farm to a Mexican Cathedral and the scene of Mexican bull-fights is a decided change in the program.

"Just across the Rio Grande from El Paso and connected with it by the international bridge is Juarez, the city of adobe. One beautiful day while attending the Chautauqua at El Paso, I took the street car to visit Juarez. The cars are propelled by lazy mules and driven by uncleanly looking Mexicans.

"The boundary river of our Lone Star state I had supposed to be a very large stream, but to my surprise I found it to be but a paltry little rivulet over which one could step. It is true that four days before it had been a foaming torrent reaching from bank to bank, but the tillers of the soil soon made use of its waters, as irrigation is necessary to obtain any produce.

"Juarez is a small, unattractive city if one is but (CONTINUED ON PAGE 20.)

FREE HAIR FOOD.

All who wish to be cured of dandruff, save their hair and grow more should send name, age and full address with a small lock of hair extracted from roots (5 or 6 hairs sufficient), or a sample of daily combings, and a statement of the present condition of scalp to THE CRANITONIC HAIR FOOD CLINIC, 526 West Broadway, New York, and you will get a free bottle, by mail prepaid, with full directions for use, and a free report on the condition of your hair, after a scientific microscopic examination has been made in the Cranitonic Laboratories, the only Hair and Scalp Clinic in America devoted to the study of hair and scalp diseases. When writing for sample please say you read this article in *COMFORT*.

\$50 A MONTH for distributing samples. Enclose stamp. Inter'l Dis. Bureau, 43 John St., New York.

CLEARING Sale of Cloaks. Write for catalogue. M. Phillipsborn, 138 State St., Chicago.

\$4 A DAY to correspondents and writers all over. Experience unnecessary. "B", Union Associated Press, New York.

919 New Sample Styles Envelope, Silk Fringe 10 New Bows, 50 Rib & Baby Jokes, Pock Fun, Rascals & Flirting Cards, Star Beau Catcher, etc., All for 25 Cents. **CROWN CARD CO.**, Columbus, Ohio.

A BEAUtiful neck, face and arms. Don't pay 50c but get 10c for scaled pig, to make your skin soft and white, cure pimples, freckles, moth, wrinkles, etc. Warranted. **F. R. BIRD CO.**, Dept. 40, Boston, Mass.

FREE SIX EXQUISITE, COSTLY FINGER RINGS WE TRUST AGENTS with 20 Mineral Lamp Wicks. Best wick in the world, light equal to gas. No smoke, No smell, No trimming, No broken chimneys. Can be sold in an hour or two at 5 cents each. We will send you the money, \$1.00, and we give you free any two of these said Gold laid rings. The Stone Set Rings are equal in appearance to costly Diamonds. The Band Rings are elegant in design and all are warranted to wear well and give satisfaction. We take back unsold goods. No cash wanted until wicks are sold. Write to **MINERAL WICK CO.**, Providence, R. I.

\$1000 SALARY

A YEAR, PAYABLE WEEKLY BY OLD RELIABLE FIRM, ESTABLISHED 12 YEARS. We need 6 more General Organizers to travel and appoint Local Organizers. Also 6 more State Managers for office work at home. No capital or experience required. Any worthy Man or Woman desiring a good salary position with No Canvassing to do, should write at once to a straight, out and out, genuine cash salary of \$88.33 per month, and share profits on business. As soon as arrangements are completed for you to begin, we send first week's expenses. We want 12 honest, ambitious persons who will appreciate the confidence reposed in them and who desire to be connected with a large concern where they will be well treated and have an opportunity to build up with the house. Address with references and stamp for reply.

PRESIDENT MONROE CO., 44 Monon Building, CHICAGO.

SEND NO MONEY

If you live within 700 miles of Chicago, (if farther send \$1.00), cut this ad. out, send to us, and we will send you our new big 1901 model ACME AMERICAN 480-pound Range by freight C. O. D., subject to examination. You can examine it at your freight depot, and if found perfectly satisfactory, exactly as represented, the handsomest range you ever saw, and equal to any range you can buy elsewhere at \$30.00 to \$40.00, then pay your railroad agent **OUR** \$15.95 and freight charges (less \$1.00 if SPECIAL OFFER PRICE \$15.95 sent with order.) This range weighs 420 pounds and the freight will average for 500 miles \$1.50 to \$2.00 (greater or lesser distances in proportion.)

THIS RANGE is made in our own foundry by skilled mechanics, from the best material money can buy, is the handsomest, most ornamental, best baking and burning and most economical big square oven, high shelf range made.

MONEY CAN'T MAKE BETTER. Operating our own foundry we furnish better material, heavier castings, heavier nickel flashings, better connections and fittings than any other foundry produces. From our own foundry we save you the manufacturer's, wholesaler's, and retailer's profit, and give you a better range than you can buy elsewhere. Our Special \$15.95 price is based on the actual cost of material and labor, with but our small profit added.

THIS BIG CAST IRON RANGE is No. B SIZE. Oven is 18 1/2 x 17 1/2 x 11 1/2 inches. Top is 42 x 25 inches. Fire box when changed to wood, 17 x 25. Fire box when ordered for WOOD ONLY 32 x 18. Made from the very finest Camden stove pig iron. Latest 1901 roccoco moulding, large square lined oven door, large oval porcelain lined roccoco, handsome roccoco base, large high roccoco shelf, heavy nickel trimmings throughout, nickel oven door panel, nickel shelf, nickel draft door, nickel tea shelf, pins, hinges, knobs, panels, etc., Duplex grate, cut tops and centers, large flues, baled ash pan, slide hearth plate. **WE ISSUE A BINDING GUARANTEE**, guarantee the stove to reach you in the same perfect condition it leaves our foundry, and agree to furnish needed repairs in the years to come. Address, **SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., Chicago, Ill.**

AN ART GIFT FOR THE HOME.

There is nothing about a home as necessary as a fine duster. This picture shows the new **All Wool Duster**. Neat and convenient and so soft and clean that the daintiest article may be dusted with it without danger of scratching or scarring. Removes all dust without effort. Every duster may be hung in parlor where they make nice ornaments. **Assorted Art Colors with highly finished wood handle** firmly secured with **Bright Aluminum Ferrule**, that never tarnishes or grows dull. Will last for years and always just the handiest thing a woman can have in the house, or a man in the store or office. Make delightful presents for your friends as a gift or souvenir. Agents will find them the best selling article in the market. Special terms for those who wish to sell. **A GREAT OFFER FOR ALL.** We will send one sample All Wool Duster free to any person who will send twelve cents for a trial three months' subscription to our great family paper. The best offer ever made. Address, **GOLDEN MOMENTS, Augusta, Maine.**

1 YEAR'S FREE TRIAL

We will ship any Cornish American Piano or Organ upon the distinct understanding that if not found entirely as represented after twelve months' use we will take it back, thus giving you one year's free trial in your own home. You take no risk when you buy on the Cornish Plan. It is the only way. You cannot afford to buy any but a Cornish American Piano or Organ in face of this guarantee, as you save half by purchasing from the only firm of actual manufacturers of high-grade Pianos and Organs that sells exclusively to the general public at **FIRST COST**.



PIANOS FROM \$155

BEAUTIFUL GIFTS FREE

FOUR COLORED PIANO PLATES We offer to any intending purchaser who will write us at once and mention this paper four costly colored and embossed plates, accurately depicting in the actual colors the exact appearance of the latest style Cornish American Pianos; also our Souvenir XX Century Catalogue, fully describing fifty styles of pianos and organs with colored frontispiece, St. Cecilia, our reference book "The Heart of the People" and our latest special offers.

\$10 THIS COUPON \$20 WORTH MONEY TO YOU.

A prompt response will secure you a discount of \$10 on any Organ, or \$20 on any Piano listed in our catalogue. **WRITE AT ONCE!**

—your friends are using Cornish Pianos and Organs. We sell for either cash or easy payments. 50 per cent. intermediate profit saved.

CORNISH & CO. FOR 50 YEARS PIANO & ORGAN MAKERS WASHINGTON, NEW JERSEY TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

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We teach mechanics the theory of their work; help misplaced people to change their work; enable young people to support themselves while learning a profession.

250,000 students and graduates in Mechanical, Electrical, Steam and Civil Engineering, Telegraphy, Architecture, Stenography, Book-keeping, etc. Write for circular and mention subject in which interested.

International Correspondence Schools. Established 1891. Capital \$1,500,000. Box 1190, Scranton, Pa.

PILES CONSTIPATION, HEADACHE, and DYSPEPSIA absolutely cured. Instant relief, never returns. Acts like magic. A boon to sufferers. Trial Box Mailed Free. Address C. J. MASON, Box 519, New York, N. Y.

MARRY 10,000 are anxious to MARRY. Many Rich. Send 2c for big list with descriptions and Photos. Address **STAR AGENCY**, No. 415, AUSTIN, ILL.

\$2.00 BOX RAIN COAT

A REGULAR \$4.00 WATER-PROOF MACKINTOSH FOR \$2.00. SEND NO MONEY (if you live East of the Rocky Mountains) cut this ad. out and send to us, state your height and weight, state number of inches around body at breast, taken over vest under coat, close up under arms, and we will send you this coat by express C. O. D., subject to examination. Examine and try it on at your nearest express office, and if found exactly as represented and the most wonderful value you ever saw or heard of, and equal to any coat you can buy for \$4.00, pay the express agent \$2.00. Our SPECIAL OFFER PRICE, \$2.00 and express charges. If you live West of the Rocky Mountains, cash in full must accompany your order. This mackintosh is latest 1900 style, easy fitting, made from heavy waterproof, tan color, genuine Davis Cover Cloth; full length, double breasted, Sager velvet collar, fancy plaid lining, waterproof sewed seams. Suitable for both Rain or Overcoat and guaranteed greatest value ever offered by us or any other house. For Free Cloth Samples of Men's Mackintoshes up to \$5.00, and Made-to-Measure Suits and Overcoats at from \$5.00 to \$10.00, write for FREE SAMPLE BOOK. **SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO. (INC.) CHICAGO.** (Sears, Roebuck & Co. are thoroughly reliable.—Editor.)

FREE SIX EXQUISITE, COSTLY FINGER RINGS

WE TRUST AGENTS with 20 Mineral Lamp Wicks. Best wick in the world, light equal to gas. No smoke, No smell, No trimming, No broken chimneys. Can be sold in an hour or two at 5 cents each. We will send you the money, \$1.00, and we give you free any two of these said Gold laid rings. The Stone Set Rings are equal in appearance to costly Diamonds. The Band Rings are elegant in design and all are warranted to wear well and give satisfaction. We take back unsold goods. No cash wanted until wicks are sold. Write to **MINERAL WICK CO.**, Providence, R. I.

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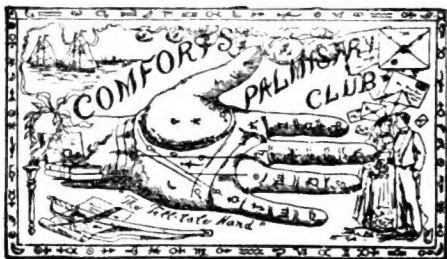
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CONDUCTED BY DIGITUS.

CONDITIONS.

To have one's hands read in this department, by Digitus, one of the finest living palmists, it is necessary to observe the following conditions:

Impressions of both hands must be sent, fully postpaid and having the name, address and nom de plume of the sender enclosed in the package also.

The package must in every instance be accompanied by the names and addresses of eight new subscribers at twenty-five cents each, the whole amount, \$2.00 being remitted, with the package, addressed to COMFORT PALMISTRY CLUB, Augusta, Maine.

No notice will be taken of impressions and requests for readings unless the sender has fully complied with the above conditions.

To take impressions, first hold two large pieces of blank paper over a candle or similar flame, until they are heavily coated with the smoke. Then lay these pieces down, smoke side uppermost on a pad of cotton. Now place the two hands, palms downward, one on each sheet of paper, pressing firmly and steadily down, but taking care not to move the hand. Keep them so for one minute and lift carefully, so as not to disturb the impression. Have ready some fixatif, which can be bought at a drug store or an art store or made with gum arabic and water in an atomizer. Spray this over the impressions before they are moved and allow them to dry. Then they are ready to send.

Smoked paper impressions are the best. But if it is desired to send a plaster cast, take plaster of Paris and dissolve in water to the consistency of thick cream. Pour this into a large shallow dish and when it is hardening place the hand, well-greased, palm downward, in the plaster, pressing downward. Several minutes will be required to get this impression and great care must be taken in removing the hand, not to break the plaster. Casts are exceedingly difficult to send without breaking and should be very carefully packed in a box with the name of the sender written on it. Putty is sometimes successfully used in place of plaster. A good photograph if sufficiently well taken to bring out all the lines, can also be read, although in all cases the smoked paper is the best, if properly treated with fixatif.

Bear in Mind that all the above conditions must be observed.

Also, that letters not complying with them will go into the waste-basket. Readings cannot appear for several months after impressions are sent.

I HAVE a long list of questions to answer this month which I will proceed to do first.

Does a star on the end of a head line always signify hereditary insanity? Supposing the head line in the right hand ends thus on the Mount of the Moon, while on the left is found a square enclosing the star, crossing the head-line and resting on the life-line? No. The star on the head-line does not always signify insanity but signifies some trouble or grief connected with the head, unless counteracted by some other signs in the head, such as the square enclosing the star spoken of. Of course all bad signs are modified by the appearance of good ones in the hands and the reader must use his judgment in regard to them.

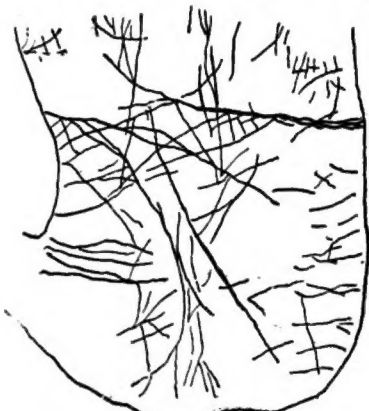
What does a double life-line in the left hand signify with only one in the right hand and that having a fork extending high on the Mount of Jupiter? A double life line always

gives strength and vigor to the constitution. The fork from the life line in the right hand to the Mount of Jupiter always signifies good fortune and gratified ambition.

Where is the influence line you speak of in connection with the marriage lines? It may be in several places. Any line running parallel to or crossing the marriage lines, or in any way interfering with them is an influence line. The clear, deep marks on both little fingers are called marriage lines but they do not necessarily signify marriage, they may mean only affairs of the heart or engagements, especially if these lines are broken or interfered with by other lines. As I have explained many times, these must be corroborated by marriage lines on the fate line or life line.

Suppose the fate line starts from the rascette and has a break after it reaches the head line extending dimly through the heart line through three squares and then has a fine fork; but at the place it broke after crossing the head line rises clear and distinct up to the base of the second finger? The three squares which appear at the break of the head line or just above it offset the bad effects of the break, but if the fate line starts up again clear and distinct to the base of the second finger that gives excellent luck and brings good fortune to the subject.

The same correspondent asks about the corresponding marriage line if they are to be looked for under the second finger or where. They are to be looked for on any part of the fate or the life lines, if they appear at the upper part of the life lines or the lower part of the fate lines they affect the early age of the sub-



"NORA C."

ject and so with these lines elsewhere, the age being indicated by position of these little lines, following close along by the side of the principal lines, fate or life. Lines crossing the principal lines are not marriage lines, and the marriage lines must appear in both hands.

What are the names of the lines extending diagonally across the hand, one starting a little below the center of the plain of Mars joined to the fate line and forked at the end, crossing the head line and the other starting a little low-

er, joined to the life line and crossing the fate? I cannot tell without seeing the hand or a reproduction of it. They may be branches of the fate or life lines, or they may be merely chance lines and their reading would depend a great deal upon the other marks on the hand. They are just as likely to be good lines as bad ones, but they have no names. The black spot on any line is always a bad sign.

The next correspondent seems to have confused the marriage lines with the heart lines. They are not at all the same thing. Crosses on the heart line such as she has indicated, if they appear on the Mount of Jupiter denote a happy marriage. The ones at the bottom of the life

line denote a changing position late in the life. The line separating from the life line near the beginning and growing gradually away from it indicates a close friendship or probably marriage which gradually goes away from the subject and where ending with the parallel lines as in this case would indicate that the friendship or marriage was ended by death. The island on the line of heart would mean a love affair late in life.

Another reader writes to ask if I could give lessons by mail and at what price. I have had several such inquiries but have already repeatedly stated in this column that I could not undertake anything of this kind. The best way to learn Palmistry is to study under some competent teacher and practice on the actual hand. If this cannot be done I should advise the purchasing of Cheiro's Book of the Hand, and after that is thoroughly learned to send for Heron-Allen's Manual of Cheirology. The study of these two books with the requisite amount of practice in reading hands, will make any one a good palmist, although some will have a natural gift at it which others will lack.

"Nora C." asks several questions connected with the palms which she encloses. First what lines or significations determine the profession for which a person is best adapted? First examine the hand as to its shape and quality. A hand with conical finger-tips whose mounts and lines show a great deal of idealism and artistic tendency will make an artist, or if the Mount of Venus is highly developed, a musician. Study the books to learn these different significations, indicated by the shape of the hand. The lines are considered afterwards in a general reading.

What is signified when the life and head lines in right hand are connected and separate about under the Mount of Jupiter and the head line goes on and divides under the Mount of Saturn, one branch going to the Mount of Mars, and other towards the wrist? These lines in left hand are not connected.

The mingling of the head and life lines, as in this hand, means that this life has been very much kept in the background and that the subject has not had the courage and encouragement which she ought to have had. She lacks self-confidence, is naturally bashful and will never be a reader unless she overcomes these

qualities.

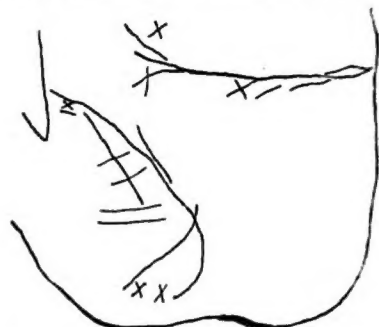
"Constant reader" asks what does a short line mean midway between the heart and head line? and then again when the short line has an island on it? This is a chance line, and should be read according to the lines of the other parts of the hand. It may mean a voyage, or it may mean an affair of the heart. An island always one of two things. Heron-Allen says, "it is either the mark of something disgraceful, or else it betrays an hereditary evil. It is the more an hereditary weakness of the head, or on the line of heart it betrays an hereditary heart disease," and so on.

As for the disgraceful indication of the island, it should be taken to mean more properly that the chance, i. e., the temptation, will occur; but a long line of head and a strong phalanx of will on the thumb will always annul the most evilly-disposed island.

On the line of heart it means in a good hand heart disease, or, in a bad one, adultery.

On the line of head, if it occurs on the Plain of Mars, it shows a murderous tendency; if beyond the Plain of Mars, it betrays evil thoughts. On a good hand it will merely indicate hereditary head weakness.

On the line of liver or health it betrays a tendency to theft or dishonesty; in a good



hand a weak digestion, or an intestinal complaint.

On the line of life an island indicates some mystery connected with the birth."

Digitus

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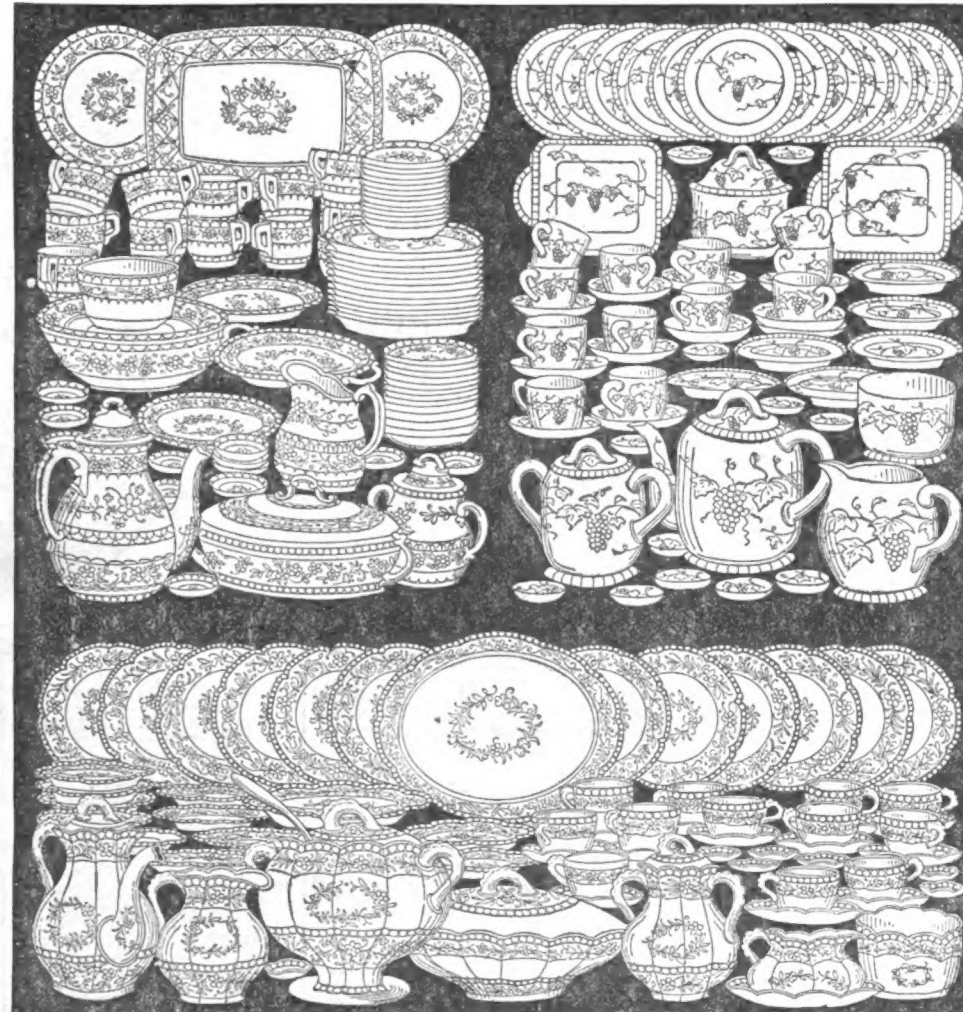
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Cuba is wrestling with the same question that agitates our states—i. e. whether a restricted or an unrestricted suffrage makes for the best results in government.

This is the month that sees the exodus from the cities of the idle and wealthy class who are said "to chase summer." Our southern mountains and seaboard are alive with pleasure seekers during the month when our northern climate is most severe.

The peculiar relation that the Supreme Court bears to our government is admired by foreigners and students of government as soon as it is understood. It is unique in the history of governments. By the Constitution, the Supreme Court decides all questions of federal law that involve the expressed or delegated powers of Congress and the implied powers. It is the final tribunal for the interpretation and application of the Constitution and by means of this peculiar power the Supreme Court occupies a position unlike that of any other court of the world. The attention of the people is directed to this power anew by the recent decision as to the laws of commerce or the tariff duties between the Philippines, Porto Rico and the United States. If these laws were declared constitutional it demonstrated the theory that the Constitution followed the flag and that land held by the United States must be considered as territory possessing the inherent power to become states. No decision since the Dred Scott decision has been as far-reaching in its possible results as this present one.

Detroit seems to be having an enjoyable time on the question of standard or sun time. It was a surprise to find that any place in the country had not yet adopted the "standard time" put into effect many years ago. This plan divided the United States into four great belts and arranged for an hour's difference in time between each belt. It was universally adopted and simplified railroad time tables and business engagements in general. Detroit is in central time but it still kept the "sun time" so that when Chicago and other cities said 12 M., Detroit said 12.28. Then the council changed to standard time. Confusion worse confounded ensued. Then the city fathers ordered the clocks turned forward again. More confusion! By this time the whole country had aroused to the fact that whether it was standard time or sun time there was a "hot time in the old town." There is a celebrated chapter in the Bible that states that there is a time to laugh and a time to weep, and incidentally names a time for most of the duties and pleasures of life but it is silent as to the fixing of time. Detroit can proudly claim that Me and the Sun keep proper time and that the rest of the earth may cling to any old time.

Saint Valentine is the only saint in the calendar whose day is universally recognized. All ages, all colors and all religions bow at some time at his shrine. Religions may change in details but the underlying principle of all that endures in them is love. Good St. Valentine long ago selected February as his month and his day has been faithfully observed ever since. Legends, traditions and folklore have gathered around its observance. The old idea of a valentine called for an original verse from the worshippers at the shrine. What wretched doggerel has been raised to the dignity of the most exquisite verse because it was read through the rose color of the "light that never was on land or sea." The extravagant ways of the ages show

themselves in the manner of expression of St. Valentine feelings. Verses written on laced paper, with fat hearts and arrows, darts, cupids and true lover's knots belong to the century that is gone. The pictured heart has given place to one of gold, the pictured flowers to violets at four cents apiece. The modern expensive tribute can say no more than the old style valentine. The pessimistic carper may claim that it says less and that true sentiment is outgrown with the old simplicity of expression. St. Valentine is the patron saint of love and when that sentiment ceases to exist human nature and even divine nature will be no more.

February is the birth month of two great Americans—Washington and Lincoln. The question has sometimes been asked, "Who is the greatest American?" The argument has often been advanced that Benjamin Franklin in his three-fold duties of statesman, man of letters and man of science, might properly be considered in an all-around sense as the greatest American. The American people have answered by national and state legislation. They have called Americans young and old to observe the birthday of two men, Washington the creator and Lincoln the preserver of the Union. These men may be considered as the two absolutely indispensable figures in the drama of history. Each brought qualities that were a distinctive part of his own personality, and these qualities were the ones that compelled success. No greater contrast could be found than that presented by the general characteristics, education and environment of the two men. Washington of aristocratic birth, trained in the surroundings and society of the oldest civilization that America could boast and Lincoln, the descendant of the "poor white" element with the crude life of the frontier as a preparation—no greater contrast could be presented. In the dark and troublous times that each man faced the characteristic that distinguished him among his fellowmen was an infinite patience and an unfaltering faith in the ultimate result of the struggle. It is fitting that the nation should pause a moment on the natal day of these two great men and review the simplicity, sincerity and patience that meant more in the end than all other qualities however brilliant. The lessons to be drawn from the characters of the men themselves is no less vital than an appreciation of the achievements of their lives.

The remarkable development of interest in automobiles promises to revive a forgotten page in our history. Bicycles created a demand for good roads and a most remarkable improvement in this direction has taken place throughout the country. Roads are an index of civilization. Rome maintained her power by a remarkable series of roads radiating in all directions from the imperial city so that the phrase "All roads lead to Rome" was an historical truth in the days of the Caesars. While our country leads the world in the extent and development of its railroads, it is far behind other nations in its roads. We have hardly learned the art of road making. The Automobile Club has appointed a committee of leading and representative citizens who are to endeavor to influence Congress to build a great national boulevard from Boston to San Francisco. With the development of interest in the bicycle, the automobile and in outdoor life such a plan commends itself warmly. The railroads spoiled the old interest in good roads. This later demand for material help towards good roads revives interest in the old Cumberland road. In 1806 the United States began the Cumberland road which was to lead from Pittsburgh west and to open the public lands of Ohio. Up to this time public improvements had been made by the states alone and the devotion of the public revenue to internal improvements met with bitter opposition. In 1808, Gallatin suggested a great system of public improvements which were to include a system of public roads running from Maine to Georgia and thence to New Orleans and San Francisco. Up to 1812 over \$200,000 had been expended by the United States on the Cumberland Road. In 1816, Calhoun brought forward a bill authorizing the expenditure of about a million and a half on canals and roads. This bill was vetoed by Madison in the closing days of his administration. In spite of this by 1821 over \$1,800,000 had been spent on the Cumberland road and it was slowly being developed westward. Calhoun had come to the view that the appropriation of money for internal improvements was unconstitutional. In 1822, Monroe vetoed a bill for the preservation and repair of the road. After years of struggle, the principle that government money may be spent for such improvements has been accepted by all political parties, but the development of railroads has caused the neglect of wagon roads. If the Automobile Club shall succeed in causing Congress to adopt its old plan and build a great road, the greater portion of the population will be pleased. While such a road would serve at first as a pleasure ground it might aid in developing new schemes of transportation for business purposes. With a fine system of roads the automobile may become an important factor in the transportation of freight for short distances. In such a case the

railroad question of prices for a "long haul" and a "short haul" may meet with a new factor.

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LIST OF THE PIECES OFFERED AT THIS TIME.			
PIANO OR ORGAN.		No. VOICE AND PIANO OR ORGAN.	
185 American Liberty March	Cook	236 Across the Bridge	Le Brun
101 Ancient Air	Cook	267 Ave Maria From Cavalleria Rusticana	Mascagni
247 Art's Life Waltzes	Strauss	140 Beacon Light of Home	Estabrooke
181 Auld Lang Syne. Variations	Durkee	134 Beautiful Moonlight. Duet	Glover
216 Austrian Song. Op. 69, 1	Pacher	238 Bells of Seville	H. Jude
179 Battle of Waterloo. Descriptive	Anderson	182 Ben Bolt. or "Tribe" fame	Kneass
227 Beautiful Blue Danube Waltzes	Strauss	282 Between Love and Duty	Dryden
213 Black Hawk Waltzes	Walsh	276 Blue Eyes and Lovers	Ellis
257 Blue Bells of Scotland. Trans.	Richards	248 Boyhood Days. Chorus	Fritz
221 Bluebird Echo Polka	Morrison	200 Bridge. The. Words by Longfellow	Carle
199 Boston Commandery March	Carter	258 Bride Bells	Rocke
109 Bridal March from Lohengrin	Wagner	276 Brown Eyed Bessie Lee. Chorus	Arbuckle
239 Bryn Mawr. St. Valentine's March	Notes	182 Can You Sweetheart Keep a Secret?	Estabrooke
255 Cavalleria Rusticana. Four hands.	Mascagni	214 Childhood's Happy Hours	Dunmore
289 Cavalleria Rusticana. Intermezzo	Mascagni	138 Christmas Carol	Turner
133 Cadences and Scales in all Keys	Czerny	190 Come When the Soft Twilight Falls	Schumann
1 Catherine Waltzes	Stroh	284 Come Back to Our Cottage	Estabrooke
297 Chateaufort. La Mouet	Langue	188 Corn's Breach of Promise. Cake walk	Blake
237 Cherokee. Rosa Waltz. 4 hands.	Cherkes	282 Cow Bells. Boyhood's Recollection	Grinn
145 Claydon (Auld Lang Syne) March—Two Step	Musad	248 Crown of Glory	Turner
217 Cleopatra's March	Notes	288 Danube River	Aide
81 Coming from the Races Galop	Wheeler	170 Darling I Shall Miss You	Cohen
289 Coppelia. Valse Lente	Debilis	276 Darling Nellie Gray	Hanby
211 Corn Flower Waltzes	Cooke, Jr.	244 De Banjo and de Instrument	Rutledge
71 Crystal Dew Waltz	Durkee	70 Dear Heart, We're Growing Old	Estabrooke
121 Crystal Dew Polka	Durkee	302 Dear Little Heart, We're Growing Old	Estabrooke
183 Dewey's Grand Triumphal March	Marcel	304 Did You Ever Call Me Darling?	Vana
287 Diamond Valley Waltz	Morhouse	128 Don't drink, my Boy, tonight. Temp.	Hoorer
299 Eastlake Waltz	Day's	280 Dream of Love	Elson
117 Echoing Trumpets March	Notes	256 Drelling with the Angels. Chorus.	Turner
303 Edelweiss	Haines	80 Easter Eve. Sacred	Gounod
121 Echo Light Galop	Robinson	220 Easter Sweet. The Memory	Haydn
91 Estella, Air de Ballet. Very fine.	Robinson	18 E. Dime Where E. Are. Comic	Letitt
107 Ethel Polka	Simons	180 Far Away	Bliss
155 Evergreen Waltz	Stoddard	182 Father is Drinking Again. Temperance	Mathiot
241 Fantastic Schottische	Gibriel	182 Flag of Our Country. Patriotic	For
291 Fantasia Schott.	Lehigh	156 Flag, The. Quartette	For
147 Fata Morgana. Four hands	Durkee	144 Firing in the Night	Delmon
77 Fifth Nocturne	Lehigh	138 Flower Waltz	Cohen
233 Fitting in the Starlight. Waltz	Langue	138 For a Dream's Sake	Cohen
239 Flower Song. Op. 28.	Langue	66 For You We are Praying at Home	Estabrooke
277 Forestville Waltz	Zohn	168 From our Home the Loved are Going	Percy
177 Forestville. Selections	Durkee	288 Gathered Roses	Pinault
177 Forestville. Selections	Durkee	288 Glean. Kiss to Me	For
69 Full of Ginger. March Galop.	Nuttin	178 God Bless My Kind Old Mother	Jeuch
183 Golden Rain. Nocturne	Clay	204 Golden Moon	Jeuch
147 Grand Commandery March—Two Step	Musad	282 Greeting Duet	Mendelssohn
281 Heel and Toe Polka	Faust	150 Gypsy Countess. Duet	Glover
185 Her Bright Smile Haunts Me Still	Richards	198 Heart of My Heart	Robinson
173 House of the Mermaid Waltz	Jewell	272 How can I Leave Thee. Duet	Greenwood
109 Home Sweet Home. Transcription	Slack	184 I Can't Forget the Happy Past.	Skelly
17 Impassioned Dream Waltzes	Kosas	178 In Sweet September	Temple
153 Jenny Lind polka. Four hands	Muller	248 In a Meadow	Pinault
187 Last Hope. Meditation	Gottschalk	266 In Summer Time	Martiale
195 Leap Year Schottische	Kahn	298 It's a Legend Old	Offenbach
285 Le Petit Bal. Polka Mazurka	Durkee	188 In the Starlight. Duet	Glover
189 Le Petit Bal. Polka Mazurka	Durkee	248 Kathleen Mavourneen	Crouch
249 Lohengrin. Selections	Durkee	198 Killarney	Balle
141 London March—Two Step	Musad	132 Kiss me, but don't say goodbye	Rutledge
243 Love's Dreamland Waltzes	Roeder	130 Kiss that bound my Heart to thine	Keil
99 Maiden's Prayer. The	Badarzewske	164 Larkheart Watch. Duet	Williams
240 Martin Selections	Johnson	148 Let's Hear the Mocking Bird	Estabrooke
233 May Day Waltz. Four hands	Johnson	148 Little Boy Blue. Solo or Duet	Estabrooke
263 May Day Schottische	Keefer	184 Little Voices at the Door	Danks
225 McKinley and Hobart March	Turner	98 Lost Cloud, The	Sullivan
55 Memorial Day March	Hewitt	234 Margaretta	Balle
131 Monastery Hells. Nocturne	Wely	112 Masala's Sleeping in de Churchyard	Keefer
61 Morning Star Waltz	Zahn	230 Memories of my Mother	Adams
29 Nook Box. The. Comic	Liebeck	230 Mother's Welcome at the Door	Estabrooke
125 My Old Kentucky Home. Variations	Cook	222 Musical Dialogue. Duet	Heimund
305 Napoleon.	Parlow	232 Must the Sweet Tie that binds	Estabrooke
67 National Anthems of Eight Great Nations	Blake	76 My Home by the Old Mill	Hulloran
135 National Songs of America	Kullak	110 My Little Lost Irene	Danks
135 Nightingale's Trill, op. 81	Kullak	170 My Old Kentucky Home	Danks
135 Ocean Waves Waltz	Keefer	118 There's a Rainbow in the Clouds	Danks
123 Old Folks at Home. Transcription	Blake	228 Old Folks at Home (Swanee Ribber)	Foster
171 Old Folks at Home. Variations	Durkee	102 Old Sexton, The	Russell
273 One Heart, One Soul. Mazurka	Strauss	270 Old Village Church	Hutton
197 On the Wave Waltz	Dunmore	104 On the Banks of the Beautiful River	Estabrooke
245 Oregon, Queen of the Sea. Two step	Robinson	90 On the Beach. Most beautiful ballad	Kosman
245 Oregon Waltz	Spencer	218 Out on the Deep	For
191 Our Little Agnes. Waltz	Gregoria	160 Outcast, An. Character Song	Fritz
91 Over the Waves Waltz	Kosas	174 Parted from our Dear Ones	Keller
79 Please Do Waltz	Durkee	254 Picture of My Mother, The	Skelly
93 Poet and Peasant Overture (Suppe)	Brunner	148 Poor Girl didn't know. Comic.	Cook
285 Psyche. Gavotte	Maffei	274 Private Tommy Atkins	Fuller
187 Red, White and Blue. March	Musad	136 Request. Sacred	Greener
147 Red and Blue. Two-step	Musad	208 Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep	Knight
245 Rustic Waltz	Schumann	142 Rosemonde	Chaminate
127 Rustling Leaves. Idylle	Langue	80 See Those Living Pictures	Guth
149 Salem Witches March—Two-Step	Musad	224 Shall I Ever See Mother's Face Again?	Adrian
189 Schubert's Serenade. Transcription	Lehmann	194 She Sleeps among the Daisies	Dunmore
181 Silvery Waves. Variations	Whitman	124 Softly shine the Stars of Evening	Adams
123 Silvery Waves. Variations	Martin	210 Son's Return, The	Fritz
208 Souvenir of the Ball Waltz	Clark	120 Storm at Sea. Descriptive	Hulloch
95 Spirit Lake Waltz	Simons	278 Summer Shower	Martiale
259 Spring Flowers Polka	Derrien	10 Sweetest Song, The	Linca
151 Stephanie Polka	Fuhrbach	32 Sweet Long Ago, The	Estabrooke
279 Storm, The. Imitation of Nature	Weyber	46 That Word was Hope. Waltz song	Rutledge
73 Sunbeams	Keefer	118 There's a Rainbow in the Clouds	Danks
108 Sunbeams Band March	Brown	208 There's a Word to be a Way	Delmon
208 Sweet Long Ago. Transcription	Blake	198 Thinking of Home and Mother	Cohen
115 Tornado Galop	Arbuckle	252 Titania's Cradle	Lehmann
103 Triflet's Grand March, op. 182	Wede	118 'Tis True, Dear Heart, We're Fading	Estabrooke
223 Twilight Echoes. Song without words	Jewell	108 Tread softly the Angels are calling	Turner
113 Under the Double Eagle March	Wagner	118 There's a Rainbow in the Clouds	Adams
147 Under the Double Eagle March	Wagner	282 Your Mother's Love for You	Koppi
205 Village Parade Quickstep	Allen	252 Warrior Bold	Adams
7 Visions of Light. Waltz	Cook	84 What are the Wild Waves Saying? Duet	Glover
203 Warblings at Eve	Richards	88 When the Roses are Blooming Again	Skelly
93 Waves of the Ocean March	Blake	88 When Winter Days Have Gone	Traysa
281 Wedding March	Mendelssohn	188 Whistling Wife. The	Randall
251 Wistful Grace. A perfect gem	Huee	212 Why am I ever Watching	de la Solle
17 Woodland Whispers Waltzes	Stanley	218 Why do Summer Roses Fade	Barker
301 Yacht Waltz	Din more	300 Yellow Roses	Watson
105 Zephyr Waltz	Brugg		

DON'T FORGET that the price you have to pay for this sheet music is only twenty-five cents; that for this you get ten pieces, not one; that it is sent to any address, postpaid; that all the little details are up to the standard, including colored titles; that the vocal pieces have full piano accompaniments; that the instrumental pieces give the bass as well as melody; that this sheet music is equal to any published. Also don't forget to make your selection at once, to send us the order, and to tell your friends about this Sheet Music Offer. Satisfaction guaranteed. Order by Numbers, not Names.

PRICE OF ABOVE PIECES.
Any 10 for 25 cents.
Any 21 for 50 cents.
Any 43 for \$1.00.
Any 100 for \$2.25.

Write your name, full address, and list of pieces wanted by the numbers; enclose this with stamps or silver, and mail or bring to address given below, and the music will be sent direct from Boston, postage prepaid.

SPECIAL OFFER To secure new trial subscriptions or extend old subscriptions, if you will send 15c. for 3 months extra subscription, we will send any six of the above pieces free as a premium, and for 25c. will send any ten pieces or to any subscriber who will select any twenty-one of the above pieces and send us 50c. we will renew their subscription to "COMFORT" for one year and give the music delivered about lately free. You can readily sell ten pieces of the music for 50c. and thereby obtain your subscription and the other eleven pieces for nothing. Don't delay, but order today.
Address "COMFORT Music Room," Augusta, Maine.



BY EVERETT G. WHEELMAN.

IN these days when the bicycle has been utilized for everything under the sun, we are surprised at nothing. The automobile is a combination of the bicycle idea with the use of electricity, so that recent advances made in automobiles comes in our line. As is well known, the question of the use of automobiles in military operations is one which now occupies the mind of all military authorities. To France must be given the credit of having first taken up the matter seriously, and for having brought it within the range of practice. The good work done in the maneuvers was the result of years of experimenting and therefore it was possible to em-



AMBULANCE.

ploy several kinds of automobiles, each one well adapted to the use to which it was put.

Military automobiles can be put in one of three classes:

- 1—For carrying passengers.
- 2—For the transportation of light material.
- 3—Traction automobiles for the conveyance of heavy material.

Those of the first class resemble closely the automobiles used by private individuals. They include Dion Tricycles, which are employed by the general staff for the rapid transmission of orders and dispatches.

These tricycles are painted a dull gray, that being the color most difficult to distinguish at a distance.

Among those for the transportation of material is a surgery automobile, which is practically a miniature hospital. The seat is for the driver and two hospital aids. The partition can be opened and inside is packed a folded operating table and necessities. The center of the car is divided into a dozen compartments, each one of which contains a case of medicine. On the top of the carriage are two big cases containing surgical instruments and the larger articles required. Behind is a room for two doctors, furnished with a lamp, table, hooks, etc. Under each seat is a small reservoir of six and a half gallons of water. At one side of the door at the back there is a small cupboard, containing a sterilizer, from which water can at any moment be procured. At the other side of the door a ladder is fixed, by means of which one can climb on the roof, where the stretchers, etc., are kept. A folded tent is so arranged that when it is open it can be used as operating or consulting room, one side of which is formed by the back of the carriage itself. This automobile which is also painted gray, has a motor of ten horse power, and travels at the rate of from two and one-half to ten miles an hour.

The postal automobile has a speed of from four and one-half to seventeen and one-half miles. The telegraph van has a petroleum motor. Its maximum speed is seventeen and one-half miles. The telegraph automobile can travel twenty miles an hour, and is very ingeniously constructed. Behind the front seat is a movable partition. When the partition is raised, the operators, sitting in front, turn around to the apparatus. At the same time, two electricians at the back establish communication with the wires.

The third class comprises those used for the transportation of heavy artillery, regimental baggage, bridge material, etc. They are really very powerful traction engines of moderate speed. The Scott engine drew siege cannon weighing fifty tons up slopes of ten in one hundred. They will run forty-five miles without having to coke. As for the price they cost less than horses, and the repairs do not cost so much as relays of horses. The coke costs about one-quarter the amount of horse feed and does not take up one-twentieth of the room.

Deserving of particular notice is the Renault Automobile, with signaling apparatus, which was tested for the first time at the maneuvers. It is an ordinary automobile, with petroleum motor of three-horse power. In the rear is a dynamo, operated directly from the motor. The axle of the auto is broken by a slip joint, and can be replaced in a moment by the axle of

the dynamo. This dynamo operates a projector, which is formed of an arc lamp with horizontal carbons and a crystal mirror of parabolic form. The stand and support of the projector are of aluminum, for the sake of lightness, with several lengths of wire, which make it possible to operate the projector at some distance from the auto. A table with indicating instruments is stowed in front of the auto. Experiment showed that it was possible to read a newspaper in the light thrown at a distance of two and a half miles from the instrument.

In London, where every foot of space is very valuable, owners of motor vehicles who "note" into town to their offices have extreme difficulty in finding suitable stabling places for their rigs, except at enormously high rates.

In some cities they have established a motor vehicle stable, where will be found every requisite for the charging and repairing of automobiles of all types. Among the conveniences there found are storage accommodation for the machines, a completely equipped repair shop, waiting rooms, etc., in fact, everything calculated to popularize the place as well as to make it of practical service.

In these days when the proprietor of almost every bicycle repair shop in the country is experimenting in the direction of the application of power to the modern bicycle, it is customary to class all efforts in a similar direction, even of a decade ago, as "ancient." In this sense, therefore, the following description of one of the earliest steam-driven bicycles ever seen in this country is not without interest, although it made its appearance only 15 years ago—in January, 1885. It was perfected by L. G. Copeland, of Phoenix, Ariz., who gave several very successful exhibitions of its powers.

A reciprocating steam engine is attached to the bar of a Star Bicycle, which connects the steering bar with the small wheel in front. Benzine is used for fuel, and this is carried in a reservoir farther down on the bar. Ninety pounds of steam can be carried, but the machine can be run with 20 pounds. The machine averages about five minutes a mile over any road. The pedals can be used in conjunction with the steam power when necessary, and the speed will be increased accordingly. By the unscrewing of two bolts the entire machine can be taken off, and there remains an ordinary Star Bicycle in its entirety. The boiler, water

rear wheel by means of a belt, which ran in a grooved rim fastened thereto. This illustration of the proto-type of the modern motor



STEAM DRIVEN STAR BICYCLE.

bicycle originally appeared in the Scientific American, and gives a very fair idea of the appearance of the "ancient" vehicle.

FLEMING BROS. SPAVIN CURE.

Our readers, who own spavined horses, will be gratified to learn that Fleming Bros., Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Ill., are reported to be accomplishing wonders with their Spavin Cure advertised in another column.

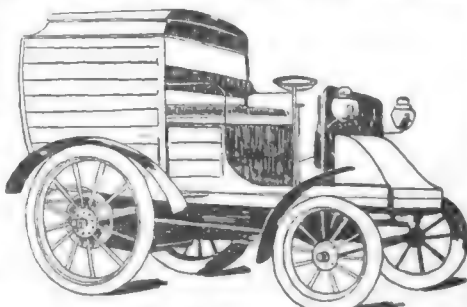
THE LATEST POPULAR SONGS.

Cost in single copies at least 40 cents each; but we have a book of one hundred and fifty-six popular songs sentimental, pathetic and comic with words and music complete which we will send to any friend who will send six cents to pay mailing expenses and our illustrated catalogue of latest bargains.

S. W. LANE & Co., Augusta, Maine.

FREE TO BOYS AND GIRLS
WATCHES, CAMERAS, AIR RIFLES
& many other premiums for selling
Roman Gold Stick Pins at 5c. each. Send
your name & address & we will forward postpaid
30 pins. When sold send us \$1.50 and get your
premium. **THE BEST CO., Dept. 82, Chicago.**

BIG PRINTING PRESS OFFER. AT 65 CENTS, 98 CENTS, \$2.75, \$3.90, \$5.95, \$15.80 AND \$29.90, according to size we sell PRINTING PRESSES AND COMPLETE PRINTING OUTFITS, including ink, rollers, wrench, delivery table, hand roller, oil can, quoin, shooting sticks and a good assortment of type. Any young man or bright boy can make money printing cards, letter heads, circulars, envelopes and other job printing. Very convenient for business houses for printing their own stationery. Write for free printing Press Catalogue. **SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO.**



POSTAL MOTOR CAR.

tank, engine, benzine tank and all appliances weigh 18 pounds. The engine is of one-quarter horse-power.

The engine proper was ridiculously light, and the power was transmitted to the large

FREE THESE ELEGANT SETS. 56 PIECES EACH. FULL SIZE FOR FAMILY USE. FREE



Columbia, Tenn., Dec. 15, 1900.
Dear Sirs:—I received the tea set for which please accept thanks. They were perfectly satisfactory, and I think I will get up a club before long. Yours truly,
Miss LUCY BAUNDS, 25 McKay St.

Bethel, N. C., Dec. 22, 1900.
Dear Sir:—I received the premium which you sent me to day and pleased to get it. It is a beauty. I think I shall do my best to get up a club for your paper. I hope you will send me some samples at once, as it will aid me in the work. I will show the premium you sent me to my friends. They are anxious to have your paper to come at once. My wife says that you are a good firm and reliable. She will help me to get up the club. Hoping you will mail the sample copies at once, I remain, Yours truly,
W. H. JOHNSON.

Graniteville, Mass., Dec. 21, 1900.
I received your premium dishes quite safe. Am well pleased with them and every one that sees them is delighted with them, and I shall do all I can to get you subscribers to your magazine.
Yours truly, Mrs. M. DAUDET



56 PIECE BREAKFAST SET

Contains TEA POT, SUGAR BOWL, CREAM PITCHER, 12 six inch Plates, 12 Tea Cups, 12 Saucers, 6 Fruit Plates, 6 Butter Plates, 1 Bowl, 2 Cake Plates, 1 Covered Dish, 1 Platter.

56 PIECE DINNER SET

Contains TEA POT, SUGAR BOWL, and CREAM PITCHER, 6 Soup Plates, 6 Meat Plates, 6 Dessert Plates, 12 Butter Plates, 6 Cups, 6 Saucers, 6 Fruit Saucers, 1 Large Platter, 2 Small Platters, 1 Cake Plate, 1 Soup Tureen.

56 PIECE TEA SET

Contains TEA POT, SUGAR BOWL, and CREAM PITCHER, 12 Cups, 12 Saucers, 6 Large Plates, 6 Small Plates, 12 Butter Plates, 1 Covered Dish, 1 Large Platter, 1 Small Platter, 2 Cake Plates.

MENTION YOUR CHOICE—STATE WHETHER YOU WANT A BREAKFAST, DINNER, or TEA SET; NAME DECORATION DESIRED—BLUE, BROWN, PINK, GREEN, or GOLD.

EVERY PERSON answering this advertisement can get a handsomely Decorated Set absolutely free—we mean it. A straightforward, honest offer, by a reliable House to advertise its business, for everybody to accept. Send at once your name, post-office address, and nearest Express or Freight Depot and you will receive it. Remember every one can have their choice of a 56 piece Breakfast, Dinner, or Tea Set Free. All sets carefully boxed and packed at our expense. No one is barred out—we positively will not go back on it, no matter what it costs us.

FASHION COMPANY, Station D, Box 35, New York City.

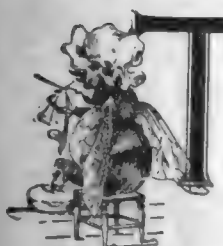
TO OUR READERS.—This company is reliable and carry out every promise made in this advertisement; we advise all wishing a 56 PIECE SET of CHINAWARE to reply at once. PUBLISHER.

COUPON
NUMBER
2627

CONDITION.—Only pin this NUMBERED COUPON to your name and address and with it you must send 10c. silver or stamps to help pay advertising expenses and you will receive a four months' subscription to a beautiful magazine together with our offer of a 56 Piece China Set (exactly as illustrated) which we shall positively send the same day this coupon is returned. If you comply promptly and accept we will carry out this offer to ship a full 56 Piece Breakfast, Dinner, or Tea Set absolutely free, all boxed and packed at our expense and further guarantee against breakage or damage. This extraordinary inducement is made because we want a big circulation quick, and if you wish a set of dishes FREE don't delay.



WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



THE following suggestion for a gift comes from E. H. Cooper of Bridgeport, Conn., and we thank her for it in behalf of the readers of this column:

Procure a map of the town in which the recipient lives (an old city directory will generally furnish one) and mount it smoothly on good straw board. Edge it with cord or bind it neatly with ribbon. Attach rings to the upper edge and pass them over a small brass rod; chain, cord or ribbon may be used to suspend the map. Now procure a number of small string tags and number them to correspond with the members of the fire alarm boxes in the city. Slip the string of each tag around a small pin and stick the pins in the map at the places indicated by the number of the box. The location of a fire can be readily determined by a glance at the map while its usefulness for other purposes is not impaired.

J. A. Bee wishes to know the address of the makers of the perfumed waist hangers which we described and illustrated a few months ago. We saw them in a number of shop windows in Boston, Mass. They are so easily made that one can make several for the price asked for one, if bought outright.

For the baby of the family, make a ball by winding a small box containing a bell or marble; wind with yarn until it becomes a good sized ball; then with some colored yarn divide the

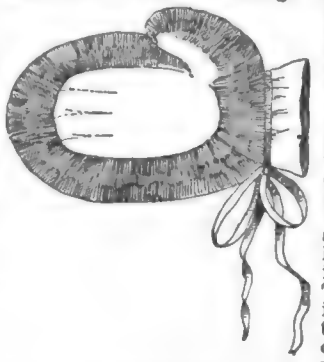
Third round.—Now take the cedar-hook; skip 3 d. c. below, and make 9 d. c. in space between third and fourth d. c. of 6 d. c. below, skip 3 d. c., repeat, and join the first and last shells by taking up the back stitch from next shell of 6 d. c. and making 1 s. c.; join the shells in every following row the same way.

Fourth round.—In the third space of shell of 9 d. c. below make 6 d. c.; also make 6 d. c. in the sixth space of 9 d. c.; repeat and join the shells as before.

Fifth round.—Skip 3 d. c. make 6 d. c. in space between the third and fourth d. c. of 6 d. c. below; repeat and join with s. c.

Sixth round.—Work 9 d. c. in space between third and fourth d. c. repeat and join the shells with s. c. Now proceed as follows: Work 2 rows of 6 d. c. as before; 1 row of 9 d. c. as before; 3 rows of 6 d. c.; 1 row of 9 d. c.; 2 rows of 6 d. c.; 1 row of 9 d. c.; 5 rows of 6 d. c.; 1 row of 9 d. c. If a larger shawl is desired more rows may be added.

Our illustrations show a few of the new fancy articles shown in the city shops. The first is a case for shaving paper. Not a new idea, but gotten up very prettily, easily and inexpensively. It consists of a 7-inch square of heavy canvas, upon which is embroidered a bow knot in silk. Another square of the canvas is pasted onto this piece, to cover the wrong side of the embroidery and the two are then bound together with a narrow satin ribbon. Several sheets of tissue paper, pinked on all the edges, and being cut enough larger than the



PINCUSHION.

pale brown, but embroidery, ribbon and paper are of a pretty shade of violet.

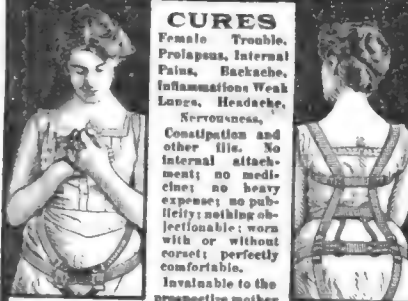
The football pin cushion is made of college colors in silk or wool, as desired. Six pieces of the silk are cut and feather-stitched together, and then are stitched tightly over a cushion of right shape. The black and yellow are particularly smart, though of course one would make them of the colors of the college to which one is partial.

Our last illustration shows the prettiest cushion of all, being made in the shape of a boxing glove. It measures about 3 inches and is made in buff chamol leather as well as in black, blue and red silk.

IF YOU HAVE DYSPEPSIA

Send no money, but write Dr. Shoop, Racine, Wis., Box 36, for six bottles of Dr. Shoop's Restorative, express paid. If cured, pay \$5.00—if not, it is free.

THE NATURAL BODY BRACE



CURES

Female Trouble, Prolapsus, Internal Pains, Backache, Inflammation Weak Lungs, Headache, Nervousness, Constipation and other ills. No internal attachment; no heavy expense; no publicity; nothing objectionable; worn with or without corsets perfectly comfortable. Invaluable to the prospective mother.

Roxbury, Idaho, July 9, 1900.

"I am a living, walking advertisement of the Natural Body Brace. It cured me when all else failed. My ailments were falling womb, backache and general female weakness."

MRS. D. W. CHARLES.

Write today for particulars and illustrated book mailed FREE in plain sealed envelope. Address: The Natural Body Brace Co., Box 27 Salina, Kansas.

30 DAYS TRIAL FREE



EARN THIS HANDSOME BROCADE DRESS SKIRT.

This is a very stylish and handsome black skirt, with a full 3 1/2 yard waistband. It is made of a handsome variety of all over large leaf brocade woven BRILLIANTLY; a durable and stylish material for dress skirts lined with a patent black rustling cloth. 7 1/2 in. Interlined blue velveteen bound bottom. We will send this to any one for mailing \$3.05. Note of our Ladies Gold-plated Dress Skirt. 25c. a set, (each piece set with exquisite jewelry.) Send no money. Simply send your name and address and we will send you the beautiful BROCADE SKIRT for your trouble. We trust you will take back all the pins you cannot sell. We'll send you a GOLD GOLD.

The Maxwell Co., Dept. 121 St. Louis, Mo.

\$3.05 AUTOHARP



SEND NO MONEY

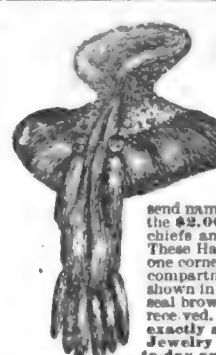
Our \$3.05 AUTOHARP is made of the highest quality materials. It has 23 strings, 5 bars and produces 8 chords. Made of selected resonant spruce pine, beautifully polished and finished; very finest steel strings, best nickel and celluloid trimmings throughout, very sweet and powerful tone, such an instrument as retailers sell at \$5.00 to \$10.00. We include free a complete instruction book, which teaches anyone how to play and contains pretty musical selections, full assortment of picks, tuning key and wire music stand. The Autoharp is one of the most popular of the smaller musical instruments. It is extremely simple, has no complicated parts, no mechanism that requires skill to operate. Anyone, even without musical ability, can play it with little practice. Forms a beautiful accompaniment and is one of the most pleasing musical instruments made. \$3.05

AT ONCE. Write for Free Sample Catalogue. Address: SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO, ILL.

that sell in music stores at \$5.00 to \$10.00, pay this SPECIAL OFFER PRICE \$3.05 and express charges, which are about 50 cents.

OUR \$3.05 AUTOHARP is made of the highest quality materials. It has 23 strings, 5 bars and produces 8 chords. Made of selected resonant spruce pine, beautifully polished and finished; very finest steel strings, best nickel and celluloid trimmings throughout, very sweet and powerful tone, such an instrument as retailers sell at \$5.00 to \$10.00. We include free a complete instruction book, which teaches anyone how to play and contains pretty musical selections, full assortment of picks, tuning key and wire music stand. The Autoharp is one of the most popular of the smaller musical instruments. It is extremely simple, has no complicated parts, no mechanism that requires skill to operate. Anyone, even without musical ability, can play it with little practice. Forms a beautiful accompaniment and is one of the most pleasing musical instruments made. \$3.05

AT ONCE. Write for Free Sample Catalogue. Address: SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO, ILL.



FUR COLLARETTE FREE

Don't pay out your good money for a beautiful Fur Collarette, when we are giving them away free to quickly introduce our Jewelry Novelties. There is no catch or trick about this advertisement. We guarantee to do exactly as we say, and every lady who will send only 5 of our latest Tiffany style 18k solid gold plated and enameled Brooches will receive our generous offer of this beautiful Opossum Fur Collarette, with 12 doz. white Handkerchiefs, silk embroidered, and a beautiful Ladies' 12 ckt. Book, all leather, gilt and silver metal front decorated. We ask no money in advance, if you agree to send only 5 of these fast selling Brooches at 25c each (regular price 50c) the \$2.00 and we guarantee if you comply with the offer we shall send you the Handkerchiefs and Pocket Book; this beautiful Opossum Fur Collarette will be given absolutely free. These Handkerchiefs are pure white, pointed, white scalloped edge, 12x12 1/2, floral embroidered in compartment, all around gilt and silver metal front decorated. The Fur Collarette is exactly as shown in picture, it has 16 inch tabs, high storm collar, 10 black Opossum tails, 2 Persian heads, best seal brown satin lining and padded throughout. Premiums are sent postpaid same day money is received. We are an old and responsible concern and absolutely guarantee all our premiums Jewelry in ten minutes. Mrs. M. E. McDonald, Black River, Mich., writes: "I sold all the to-day and am very much pleased with them. I cannot say how you can give such large presents for such little work. Write to-day, don't miss this rare chance. All who have received these beautiful presents are delighted."

NATIONAL MERCANTILE CO., Nicholson Pl. 239 E. St. Louis, Mo.

FOR SELLING OUR JEWELRY NOVELTIES.

Watches, Cameras, Bracelets, Gold Rings,

given away ABSOLUTELY FREE for selling our Jewelry. No money required. Send us your name and address on a postal card, and we will send you 18 gold plated scarf and ring pins, all set with different colored stones, to sell for 10 cents each. The best sellers offered by any firm. When you have sold them we will send you your choice of a Watch, a solid Gold Ring and any other valuable premium on our large illustrated list, which we send you with the pins. We pay all postage.

NOVELTY MFG. CO., 23 Park St., Attleboro, Mass.

ENTONA CURES

Constipation and Hemorrhoids.

At all druggists, 50c. a box or sent on receipt of price. Write a postal card to-day for FREE SAMPLES THE ENTONA CO., Dept. C, 61 Fifth Avenue, New York.

\$1.50 MILK CAN.

For \$1.50 we sell the Celebrated Chicago Special eight-gallon Milk Can. One of the most popular cans for cream, dairy and general wagon use. Used generally in every part of the United States. Made for us under contract by the best and oldest milk can maker in America. Made from high grade heavy tin plate, extra well soldered, heavy breast and bottom hoops, seamless neck and cover. Average weight 15 pounds.

OUR FREE OFFER. Send No Money, say what you want, cut this ad. out and send to us and we will send you the can by freight C. O. D., subject to examination. You can examine them at your freight depot, and if found perfectly satisfactory, the greater value, every other satisfied, very much lower in price than you can

buy elsewhere, then pay the railroad agent. SPECIAL OFFER PRICE, \$1.50 per can, and freight will average on six cans about 75 cents. Freight will average on six cans about 75 cents. For prices on other kinds and grades write for Free Catalogue of Dairy Supplies.

SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., Chicago, Ill.

BED, SPRINGS AND MATTRESS, \$5.95

SEND NO MONEY if you live within 800 miles of Chicago; if further send \$1.00 and freight, C. O. D., subject to examination, this WHITE ENAMELED IRON BED, WOVEN WIRE SPRINGS AND MATTRESS. You can examine them at your nearest freight depot, and if found perfectly satisfactory, exactly as represented, equal to what your dealer sells at DOUBLE THE PRICE, and the GREAT SPECIAL OFFER PRICE, \$5.95 and freight charges (less \$1.00 if sent with order). The outfit weighs about 140 pounds, and freight will average 75 cts. for each 400 miles.

THE IRON BED is 4 feet 6 inches wide, 54 inches high, is given highest possible white enamel finish in three coats, baked on; 14-inch posts, 5-inch fluted beautiful brass cast vases and mounts, MADE EXTRA STRONG and fitted complete with best casters.

are HIGH GRADE WOVEN WIRE, heavy, strong hard SPRINGS, maple frame, thick bottom OF THE EASIEST, STRONGEST AND BEST SPRINGS MADE.

MATTRESS is made of best quality excelsior, with select white cotton top and good quality ticking.

WRITE FOR FREE CATALOGUE OF ALL GOODS.

SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO.

EST VALUE YOU EVER SAW, pay the railroad agent. SPECIAL OFFER PRICE, \$5.95 and freight charges (less \$1.00 if sent with order). The outfit weighs about 140 pounds, and freight will average 75 cts. for each 400 miles.

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EST VALUE YOU EVER SAW, pay the railroad agent. SPECIAL OFFER PRICE, \$5.95 and freight charges (less \$1.00 if sent with order). The outfit weighs about 140 pounds, and freight will average 75 cts. for each 400 miles.

THE IRON BED is 4 feet 6 inches wide, 54 inches high, is given highest possible white enamel finish in three coats, baked on; 14-inch posts, 5-inch fluted beautiful brass cast vases and mounts, MADE EXTRA STRONG and fitted complete with best casters.

are HIGH GRADE WOVEN WIRE, heavy, strong hard SPRINGS, maple frame, thick bottom OF THE EASIEST, STRONGEST AND BEST SPRINGS MADE.

MATTRESS is made of best quality excelsior, with select white cotton top and good quality ticking.

WRITE FOR FREE CATALOGUE OF ALL GOODS.

420 Quilt

Sofa and Pin Cushion Designs,

many new and original designs, never before published. Book contains besides, lesson on embroidery, on Battenburg Lace making, all illus., alone worth 50c. each; also illus. lists of materials and quilting designs, including 100 fancy stitches for patch work. Regular price is 25c., but to each reader of this paper we will send a copy postpaid for 10c. LADIES' ART CO., Dept. 5 B. St. Louis, Mo.

for 10c. LADIES' ART CO., Dept. 5 B. St. Louis, Mo.

\$500 IN GOLD FREE

Can you find the missing bird? IF YOU CAN FIND THE MISSING BIRD YOU MAY SHARE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF \$500 IN GOLD, WHICH WE ARE GIVING AWAY for doing a little work for us. This you can do in less than one hour of your time. This, and other most liberal offers are made to introduce one of the most interesting and best New York publications into every home in the United States and Canada. WE DO NOT WANT ONE CENT OF YOUR MONEY. The current issue has many most interesting stories, and a copy will be SENT FREE to each person answering this advertisement. When you have discovered the missing bird, mark it with a cross and send it to us, and you will hear from us promptly BY RETURN MAIL. It may take a little study to discover the bird, but STICK TO IT AND TRY AND GET YOUR SHARE OF THE \$500. Do not delay. Send your answer immediately. Address: THE METROPOLITAN AND RURAL HOME, 20 North William Street, New York City.

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Can you find the missing bird? IF YOU CAN FIND THE MISSING

THE HAIR TELLS ALL

HEALTH AND HAPPINESS REVEALED BY A LOCK OF YOUR HAIR.

Wonderful Foresight of a Physician.

By a lock of your hair, age, name and sex, Dr. J. C. Batdorf prepares a scientific diagnosis of your case free and tells what will cure your ailments. It is a remarkable gift to thus read by the simple guide of a lock of hair and reveal the state of health and outline the way to happiness. Thousands of men and women are taking advantage of the doctor's offer to give one reading free to each applicant. It is a very interesting and instructive proceeding and the doctor's forty years experience in practice has given him a wonderful keenness in reading and diagnosing the life of humanity. Write your name plainly, age, sex and enclose 4 cents in stamps, a lock of your hair and see what the doctor can do for you. It is well worth your time. Address Dr. J. C. Batdorf, Dept. 15, Grand Rapids, Mich.

I Print Card Press \$5
My Own Money. I make money by printing cards, type setting, catalogues, press, type, paper, &c. to factory. **THE PRESS CO.,** Meriden, Conn.

NO DIRT LEFT
In clothes washed with the "BUSY BEE WASHER" 100 pieces in one hour and no hard work done. That is the record. **AGENTS WANTED** Everywhere. Write for terms. **Lake Erie Mfg. Co., 155 E. 13 St., Erie, Pa.**

AGENTS SAMPLE FREE
FAVORITE SPOON For stirring and mixing batter of all kinds. Sent for actual postage sample. Large catalogue sent FREE. \$2 outfit free, express prepaid. Dept. 1, HOUSEHOLD ADVERTISING WORKS, 25 E. 1st St., Chicago, Ill., or New York, Buffalo, St. Louis, Kansas City, St. Paul. This Co. is worth a Million Dollars and is reliable.

RUPTURE CURED!
WORN NIGHT AND DAY. Patented improvements, comfort, safety. New full illustrated Book telling all about Rupture sent FREE, absolutely sealed. **G. V. HOUSE MFG. CO., 744 Broadway, New York.** Please mention Comfort when you write.

Brass Band
Instruments, Drums, Calendars, & more. Write for catalogue, 445 illustrations. FREE! It gives information for musicians and new bands. **LYON & HEALY, 23 Adams St., CHICAGO.**

KIDNEY AND BLADDER CURE FREE.
Any sufferer from disease, Bright's troubles, and any artery, by sending address to **Dr. D. A. Williams, East Hampton, Conn.** will receive by mail, absolutely free, Trial Treatment of the one medicine that will permanently cure after everything else has failed.

FREE
this genuine 14k. Rolled Gold Ring or a Band Ring. Knite, Shirt Waist Set, etc., to anyone who will send 10 of our **ROMAN GOLD STICK PINS** at 10c each. They sell quickly at the price; suitable for ladies or gentlemen. No Money Required in Advance! Just send your name and address saying you will send the pins or return them and we will send you them at once postpaid with large premium list of Watches, Chains, Opera Glasses, Clocks, etc. When sold you send us the money and we will send the premium you select. Our Premiums are the Best. **M. R. COMPANY, 79 Dearborn St., Dept. 64, Chicago.**

\$14.95 DISC HARROW OFFER
OUR DISC HARROW, \$14.95. SEND NO MONEY If you live within 500 miles of Chicago, cut this ad. out and send to us. We will send you this high grade Disc Harrow, by freight C. O. D., subject to examination. You can examine it at your freight depot, and if found perfectly satisfactory, exactly as represented, the equal of any Disc Harrow made, about ONE-HALF THE PRICE at home, pay the freight, agent OUR SPECIAL OFFER \$14.95 and freight charges.

The harrow weighs 120 lbs. and the freight from the factory in central Ohio, will average about \$2.00 for each 500 miles. **OUR \$14.95 PRICE** is based on the actual cost of material and labor, with but our one small profit added. Less than dealers can buy in carload lots. This \$14.95 HARROW has 12 16-inch discs and is the highest grade steel disc harrow made. Made from extra heavy highest grade angle steel to withstand any strain. Axles from highest grade 1-inch square steel, every one tested to highest strain. Discs or blades are the very highest grade made. They are made to withstand wear and will outlast any other disc on the market. Made with square holes to accommodate the axle, shovels have square holes so that it forms one solid piece, making it impossible for the discs to get loose on the axle. **OUR \$14.95 DISC HARROW** for 1901, the very latest every up-to-date feature of every other disc harrow made, put harrow on the market and offers direct to the farmer from the factory on THE BASIS OF FACTORY COST. **OUR \$14.95 PRICE** is for harrow complete with accessories and singletree. **FOR LARGER DISC HARROWS WRITE FOR DISC HARROW CATALOGUE.** Address **SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO, ILL.**

Dance the Highland Fling.
A REAL SCOTCH BAGPIPE

costs lots of money but here is a jolly good Bagpipe FREE. You can play lots of tunes on it and entertain a room full of company. Go along the street with the musical strains of the bagpipe coming forth and you can attract a crowd of people; they create a great sensation. Here is just imported a big lot of these musical instruments and want to scatter them all over the Union. Don't send for one unless you like the real genuine Scotch Bagpipe which is played every day in the Coldstream Guards before the Prince of Wales Palace in London. Do you want a pair of these pipes FREE, so you can get twin in a harmonious discord that will elevate your musical education while you are learning to play? Send for a special year's subscription to our Family Herald, the great dollar monthly. We pay all charges on the two Bagpipes and send two of them gratis. Send 15c for a four month's subscription and we send one Bagpipe free. One dozen Bagpipes for only \$10.00. You can easily sell them for 25c. each and make two dollars by the transaction. **FAMILY HERALD, Augusta, Maine.**

vanilla caramels; have one cup of chopped figs in a buttered tin; when boiled enough pour over the figs.

Nut and coconut caramels may be made by either chocolate, maple or vanilla caramel recipe by adding one cup of chopped walnut or the same amount of coconut.

CANDY CORN CAKE.

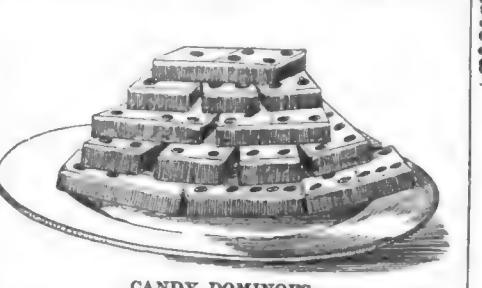
Have ready enough popped corn to fill a two-quart measure, salt it, and sift it through your fingers to remove all the loose salt and the unpopped kernels. Now make a candy with a cupful of molasses, half a cupful of brown sugar, a dessertspoonful of best vinegar, and about one-half oz. of fresh butter; when this is ready stir in as much of the corn as will take up, then press the mixture into buttered or oiled tins, mark it out in cakes with a sharp knife, and leave till set.

MAPLE CREAM.

Two and one-half cups brown sugar; one-half cup milk or cream; one-fourth cup butter; one quart peanuts chopped fine; one teaspoon vanilla. Boil the sugar, milk and butter together until it hardens in cold water; Add the peanuts and vanilla. Take from fire and stir continually until it turns to sugar; pour into buttered pans to cool.

"Enjoying poor health" is an expression that has been much laughed at; but it may almost come true in the realization of all the modern comforts that have been provided for sick people.

Take for instance the changed custom of raising invalids in bed. There is the couch that enables even the sick person to lie flat on his or her back and enjoy all the effect of a



CANDY DOMINOES.

change of position. This new invention is just an ordinary, lightly-built metal bed with a springy wire mattress that, by a touch of the nurse's hand, can be raised or lowered, tipped this way or that, giving the invalid all the delightful sense of movement and change without really altering the position in the least.

Then there is the bed for people with broken limbs or injured backs, who dare not move as they hope to grow well and strong. This delightful bed is fitted with special springs and casters so adjusted that it can be pushed about a room without ever so slightly jarring the occupant, and yet affording a constant variety in location. Even the relief of occupying different rooms from time to time is now possible, which means so much in cheerfulness and strength to invalids. While the pivoted bed has been made especially for those who are forced to a prolonged rest on their backs, there have been many improvements put forth lately in behalf of the invalid, who need suffer no such test of endurance and patience, but can sit up a little, for meals.

You know it used to be the fashion—and the only way we knew, in giving the patient an erect bed with the liberal use of pillows to form a back-rest, else a hard board, with an easel support, was placed behind the sick person, a pillow put on this and the body was propped into just the posture that threw all the strain on the base of the spine. Now an excellent appliance has been brought out that does away with pillows entirely. The new back-rest, for use in bed, is cushioned, built high enough to afford a head supporter, has tuft projecting ears, like the "grammy chair," to cut off draughts, and well-cushioned arms on both sides to give the patient comfort for her elbows. This back-rest is so arranged that the invalid can sit or partially recline at any angle, herself, which throws the broad supporting board backwards as the need may be.

Then, too, for the bed-ridden invalid, who creeps out to the comparative freedom of sofa life, there are possibilities of great relief in the new tufted spring couch, the long seat and headrest of which is artfully hinged to admit of many changes in the sick person's position. It can be adjusted to support a weak back, to raise or lower the head and the whole cushioned top of the sofa can be also lifted off to slip into a wheeled spiral chair that the patient occupies while stretched at full length.

Or, does this patient have to have her meals in bed? There have been meal trays in use before, but none so cleverly provided with conveniences nor so cheerfully and artistically ornamented as those now purchasable; and excellent ones they are for use both as meal trays, card, chess, backgammon and checkerboards.

Exceedingly pretty dinner stands are now being made of wicker, stained green, brown or a cheerful cheery red with pockets at the corners and along the sides into which the salt, pepper boxes, etc., will fit and prevent that irritating restlessness with which inanimate objects are sometimes possessed. And many of these have legs that will let it stand firmly on the bed and raise it just above the invalid's lap. And if "trifles make up the happiness or the unhappiness of life" to the average human being—how much more do they effect the invalid.

EVERY LADY READ THIS.

I will send free a positive cure for all female diseases, irregularities, etc. A simple home treatment, a common sense remedy that never fails. FREE with valuable advice. **Mrs. L. D. HUDNUT, South Bend, Ind.**

PERFUMES and Toilet Soaps. No money required. Good profit. **SALVONA SOAP CO., St. Louis, Mo.**

600 SECOND HAND BICYCLES \$3 to \$10. Bargain list free. **Mead Cycle Co., Dept. B.3, Chicago.**

HOME WORK FOR MEN & WOMEN FREE SEND STAMP—OUTFIT NO CANNASSING WORLD CO. STAIN BATHING

Cloth by the Yard Live and energetic men and women can make a good living selling cloth for ladies.

tailor made suits. Sample book containing 400 cloth samples free to any one who will agree to push sales. We want a good agent in every town. **STANDARD LADIES' TAILORING COMPANY, 246 Franklin Street, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.**

Agents Wanted

Sure Paying Business \$30 A WEEK SURE.

GOLD, SILVER, NICKEL AND METAL PLATING. NEW QUICK PROCESS.
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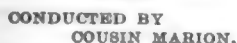
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Thirty Minutes is a short time, but many have earned one of these watches in less time than that. It is one of the very best watches for time ever offered to our readers at no matter what the price asked for it. We know, of course, there are watches that cost more money, because they are in gold or silver cases, but they will not keep any better time, simply because they cannot. This watch keeps not perfect time, we never saw the watch that did, but it keeps as near perfect time as watches usually do. We have such faith in this watch as a timekeeper that we send with every one a guarantee just as binding as that given with any watch, no matter what makes it. We are willing to give you this watch if you will do us a slight service, which you can easily do in an hour. We wish to increase our subscription list, and we want the assistance of every reader of this paper to that end. We do not want you to do it for nothing, we will reward you for it. You can easily secure this valuable subscription price of four subscribers to this paper, at our special subscription price of 25 cents a year each. Do this, sending us \$1.00, with the names of four subscribers to this paper, and we will send you the watch to reward subscriber for one year, and we will send you the watch to reward you for your efforts in our behalf. Start out now and see what you can do. Remember we guarantee every watch. If you get five subscribers and send us \$1.25 for the same we will also send you a nice chain. Address

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BOYS and GIRLS! We are giving away a Mammoth Box of Premiums containing 125 Articles to any boy or girl who will sell a few boxes of SALVITA for 10c each. Remember, we give you 125 Premiums, all in one Big Box for a few hours' pleasant work selling SALVITA, the great household remedy. If you want this Big Package of Gifts (125 different articles) send your name and address today, and we will send you a box of SALVITA for you to sell, and big catalogue showing the 125 Premiums which you get for your work. Don't send any money. We will trust you. Write today. It will take a few hours to earn the Big Box of Premiums, containing 125 different articles. Address, SALVITA REMEDY CO., Jackson, Mich.

FREE DO YOU WANT A WATCH that runs and keeps good time? This watch has a SOLID GOLD laid case, handsome dial, dust proof, adjusted to position, patent escapement, and highly finished. It should wear and give satisfaction for 20 years. It has the appearance of a \$40.00 GOLD one. The watch is accompanied with a 20 YEAR GUARANTEE. The case is made of solid gold, and is the most skilled workman. The movement is an AMERICAN STYLE, expansion balance, quick train, and you can rely upon it that when you own one of these truly handsome watches you will at all times have the correct time in your possession. Just the watch for railroad men, or those who need a very close time. Do you want a watch of this character? If so, now is your opportunity to secure one. WE GIVE IT FREE as a premium to anyone for selling 15 pieces of our handsome jewelry for 10c. each. Simply send your name and address, and we will send you the 15 pieces of jewelry postpaid. When sold, send us the \$1.50 and we will send you the handsome SOLID GOLD laid watch. We trust you, and will take back all you cannot sell. We propose to give away these watches simply to advertise our business. No cash, no return, just what we say. You require no capital, while working for us. Address SAFE WATCH CO., Box 180, New York.

LIFE SIZE DOLL FREE "Baby's clothes will now fit Dollie." Girls can get this beautiful Life Size Doll absolutely Free for selling only four boxes of our Great Cold & Headache Tablets at 25 cents a box. Send your name today and we will send the tablets by mail postpaid, when sold send us the money (\$1.00) and we will send you this Life Size Doll which is 24 inches high and can wear baby's clothes. Dollie has an indestructible head, Golden Hair, Rosy Cheeks, Brown Eyes, Kid Colored Body, a Gold Plated Beauty Pin, Red Stockings, Black Shoes, and will stand alone. This doll is an exact reproduction of the finest hand painted French Doll, and will live in a child's memory long after childhood days have passed. Address, NATIONAL MEDICINE CO., Doll Dept. 3 B New Haven, Conn.

FREE ANY ONE CAN EASILY EARN A WATCH-CHAIN AND CHAIN-LADY'S KNOTS. STYLE GOLD PLATED, NICKEL OR SILVER WATCH, (not a big clock called a watch), CHAIN BRACE-LET with lock and key, 50 PIECE TEA SET (full for family use), GOLD FINISHED INITIAL RING. We mean every word we say. Send your name and address of the above presents absolutely FREE. Send us your name and address (no money), and we will mail you, postpaid 15 beautiful stamped BOULIERS, different designs, with 15 exquisitely perfumed love Charm. Sell the Bouliers at 10c. each and give your charm free with each. When sold send us the \$1.50 and we will at once send you for selling 15, one Watch-Chain and Charm and a Ring with any letter you wish, together with our offer of a 50 piece Tea Set, etc. PARIS ART CO., B. 5 MONTCLAIR, NEW JERSEY.

\$14.75 STEEL MILL SEND NO MONEY If you live within 500 miles of Chicago, (if further send \$1.00), cut this ad. out and send to us, and we will send you this, the best 8-foot STEEL WINDMILL made, complete with wheel, vane, chain, wire and pole, by freight C. O. D., subject to examination. You can examine the windmill at your nearest railroad station, and if you find it perfectly satisfactory, exactly as represented, one of the best steel windmills made, and the equal of mills sold by others at double the price, pay the railroad agent our \$14.75 and freight charges. Special Offer Price. (First \$1.00 if sent with order) The mill weighs 385 pounds, and the freight will average \$1.50 to \$2.50 for each 500 miles. OUR \$14.75 WINDMILL is one of the highest grade mills made. Extremely simple, made of few parts, cannot get out of order. Has self oiling boxes, positive brake, wheel makes two and one-half revolutions to one stroke of the pump, responds instantly when thrown in or out of gear, can be used either on wood or steel tower. Guaranteed the easiest running, best, strongest and most durable mill made. \$14.75 painted; \$16.00 galvanized. For \$14.95 we furnish the highest grade 5-5-1-b, 50-foot, all steel tower, complete with anchor posts and large platform. The tower is strongly braced with angle steel cross girders from post to post on every side and on the bottom, the best tower construction possible. Sent anywhere within 500 miles of Chicago without deposit, our special price \$14.95 and freight charges payable when received. If not satisfactory, At \$14.95 we furnish tower painted; galvanized, \$16.20. Complete steel mill and 50-foot steel tower painted, \$29.70; complete tower mill and galvanized, \$32.20. For 50-foot steel tower in place of 50-foot, deduct \$5.00. **30 DAYS' FREE TRIAL.** If you return the railroad agent our special price, you can give this mill 30 days' trial on your own place, and if it does not prove satisfactory in every way, return it to us at our expense of freight charges, and we will return your money. **ONE YEAR BINDING GUARANTEE.** Every mill and tower is put out under our written binding year guarantee. With care it will last a lifetime. **PRICES MAY GO UP.** Steel is advancing at the mills, a permanent advance in steel will advance the price of mills and towers and we therefore advise you to order at once. **ORDER TODAY.** Address, SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO, ILL.

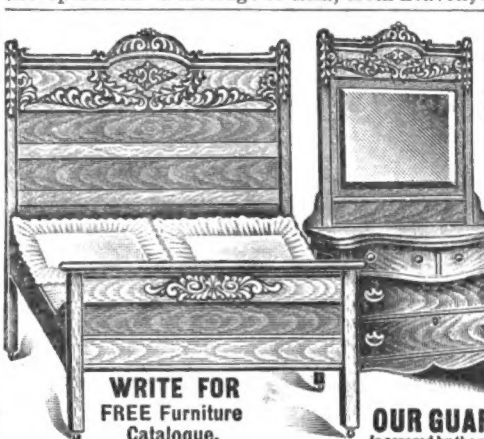
A Chinese Theatre.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18.)

Then there comes a revolution in the distant part of the province, and the Prince is obliged to buckle on his silver brocade armor and go to war. While he is gone the five heavenly sisters, who have been represented to be desolate in heaven at the loss of one of their number, come down to earth to pay her a visit. This visit takes place on the stage. After the first surprise of the wife and mother is over they sit around in a semicircle, gorgeous to behold, and a lively dialogue takes place which sounds very much like pounding on a big up-turned brass kettle with a hardwood stick. The celestial visitors are urging the wife of the Prince to go back with them to her former home. She protests that she cannot bear to leave her husband, and tells them how desolate he will be. They tell her that he will have their little baby son to comfort him, and the baby, represented by a large wooden doll swathed in resplendent clothes is passed about to be admired. The sisters finally prevail, and all six retire from the stage.

There is no curtain. The actors walk on the stage and off when the action calls for their appearance and disappearance. The orchestra, composed of three players, of which I will say more later, sit at the back of the stage, in a little alcove, and play constantly. Supers walk on and off unconcernedly, in the full sight of the audience, to bring on and arrange such simple properties as the Chinese ideas of scenery demand. Some tables and a few chairs are about all, but these are used for many and various purposes, as will be seen. Interested friends of the actors who are not "on" in any particular act watch the play from the wings in full view of the house.

When the Prince returns from the war he finds himself a widower. At first he is wholly disconsolate, and raves upon the stage in true tragic style, the orchestra meanwhile playing in a more awfully minor key than usual. He does not know that his wife has gone back to heaven, nor, in fact, did he know up to that time that she had been heaven-sent to him. While he is lamenting in the middle of the front of the stage, the supers bring in three large tables and place them back of him, in front of the orchestra. The tables are set end to end, and at one end of the line a chair is set which makes a convenient step from the floor to the top of the tables. When this stage arrangement is completed the six sisters make their appearance and by means of the chair walk up on the tables, where they stand in a row with the wife of the prince in the middle. The Prince stops his lamenting, probably for lack of breath, and the wife begins to warble—"wobble" would better express the operation—a message to him, from heaven,



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boxed, moulded and decorated finish, heavy moulded top, 19x34 inch top.

THE COMMODE IS MADE TO MATCH DRESSER. Has a handsome double serpentine finish, with double drawers, 19x34 inch top.

THE THREE PIECES style for 1901, the equal of suites that sell everywhere at double the price. At \$16.95 PRICE this suite comes carefully packed in burial, cloth and excelsior, complete with drawers, dresser pulls, locks, mirror, etc. Order Today. SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., Chicago, Ill.

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OUR GUARANTEE. Every suite is carefully wrapped and packed, delivered to the railroad station in perfect order, is covered by the strongest guarantee as to quality of material, workmanship, finish, etc. is based on the actual cost of material and labor, with but our own small margin of profit added, less than dealer can buy the same suites in carload lots. We make this price by taking the entire output of one of the largest furniture factories in America, a contract that enables them to run their factory at full capacity on this one new 1901 style; and employing all possible labor-saving automatic machinery, owning their own hardwood timber, they convert the standing oak tree into this beautiful decorated oak suite, which you buy from first hands at a price heretofore unknown. **THE SUITE** no small illustration or picture can do it justice. **THE BED** is made of the choicest, carefully selected, handselected, air seasoned and polished oak, given a very high polish, filled in, rubbed out, varnished and polished. Stands 6 ft. 7 in. high, 45 in. wide, full paneled, very elaborately decorated, with fine carving, embossing, heavy scroll work effect, deep embossed moulding, trimming, etc. **THE DRESSER** is 6 ft. 11 in. high, has 22x44-inch top, large 24x30-inch heavy bevel edge full German plate mirror, made with deep 1901 style double swell top drawers, heavy full paneled sides, elaborately carved, moulded top trimming, handsome bronzed pulls, locks and knobs. **THE COMMODE** is made of the same fine highly polished oak, with double drawers, 19x34 inch top. **THE THREE PIECES** style for 1901, the equal of suites that sell everywhere at double the price. At \$16.95 PRICE this suite comes carefully packed in burial, cloth and excelsior, complete with drawers, dresser pulls, locks, mirror, etc. Order Today. SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., Chicago, Ill.

\$600.00 6 PIANOS FREE

YEARBRUF	PRILA	NEJU
HARMC	YAM	LUJY

Can you arrange these six different groups of letters into the names of six (6) of the months of the year? If so you can share in the distribution of the above. We shall give away 6 Fine Upright Pianos and cash amounting to \$600 in Gold among those who enter this contest, and will work for our interest. **READ CAREFULLY.** REMEMBER we do not want one cent of your money when you answer this contest. In making the six names the letters can only be used in their own groups and as many times as they appear in each individual group and no letter can be used which does not appear in its own group. After you have arranged the six groups and formed the six correct names, write them out plainly and send to us and you will receive our reply by return mail. **T&Y AND WIN.** If you make the six correct names and send them to us at once who knows but you will get a big cash prize and possibly a Piano. We hope you will and anyhow it costs you nothing to try. Do not delay. Write at once to **WOOD PUBLISHING CO., Dept. 21, 256 Franklin St., Box 3124, Boston, Mass.**

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If you live within 500 miles of Chicago (if further, send \$1.00), cut this ad. out and send to us, and we will send you this Fan-Mill by freight C. O. D., subject to examination. Examine it at your freight depot, and if found perfectly satisfactory and equal to Fan-Mills that retail at from \$20.00 to \$25.00, pay the freight agent our **SPECIAL PRICE \$7.98** AND FREIGHT CHARGES 1c a mile. If sent with order, The mill weighs 120 pounds and the freight will be about 70 cents for 500 miles; greater or shorter distances in proportion. **EVERY MILL IS COVERED BY A BINDING GUARANTEE;** more wind, more shake, carries more acres and will do more and better work than any mill you can buy for \$20.00. We separate wild seed from wheat in one operation, will separate foul seeds, such as mustard, pigeon grass, etc., from flax on once going through the mill. It is a perfect cleaner of clover and timothy. Made of very best material. We furnish with it one wire wheat hurdle, three sieves, wheat screens, wheat grader, corn and oat sieve, and barley sieve. Capacity 60 bushels per hour. **\$7.98** IS OUR SPECIAL OFFER PRICE. Order at once, write for free Agricultural Implement Catalogue. Address, SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., Chicago, Ill.

SEND NO MONEY

If you live within 500 miles of Chicago, (if further send \$2.00), cut out and return this ad. mention No. 691, and we will send you this BIG MASSIVE NEW 1901 STYLE, SOLID GOLDEN OAK, THREE-PIECE BED ROOM SUITE by freight C. O. D., subject to examination. You can examine it at your freight depot, and if found perfectly satisfactory, exactly as represented, one of the handsomest suites shown this season, the greatest bargain you ever saw or heard of, the equal of suites your storekeeper offers at double our price and more, then pay your freight agent our **SPECIAL OFFER PRICE \$16.95** and freight charges (less \$2.00 if sent with order). The suite weighs about 350 pounds. It will be shipped direct from our Chicago factory. Freight will average for 200 miles about \$1.50; 500 miles, \$2.25. Other distances in proportion.

OUR GUARANTEE. Every suite is carefully wrapped and packed, delivered to the railroad station in perfect order, is covered by the strongest guarantee as to quality of material, workmanship, finish, etc. is based on the actual cost of material and labor, with but our own small margin of profit added, less than dealer can buy the same suites in carload lots. We make this price by taking the entire output of one of the largest furniture factories in America, a contract that enables them to run their factory at full capacity on this one new 1901 style; and employing all possible labor-saving automatic machinery, owning their own hardwood timber, they convert the standing oak tree into this beautiful decorated oak suite, which you buy from first hands at a price heretofore unknown. **THE SUITE** no small illustration or picture can do it justice. **THE BED** is made of the choicest, carefully selected, handselected, air seasoned and polished oak, given a very high polish, filled in, rubbed out, varnished and polished. Stands 6 ft. 7 in. high, 45 in. wide, full paneled, very elaborately decorated, with fine carving, embossing, heavy scroll work effect, deep embossed moulding, trimming, etc. **THE DRESSER** is 6 ft. 11 in. high, has 22x44-inch top, large 24x30-inch heavy bevel edge full German plate mirror, made with deep 1901 style double swell top drawers, heavy full paneled sides, elaborately carved, moulded top trimming, handsome bronzed pulls, locks and knobs. **THE COMMODE** is made of the same fine highly polished oak, with double drawers, 19x34 inch top. **THE THREE PIECES** style for 1901, the equal of suites that sell everywhere at double the price. At \$16.95 PRICE this suite comes carefully packed in burial, cloth and excelsior, complete with drawers, dresser pulls, locks, mirror, etc. Order Today. SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., Chicago, Ill.

THE COMMODE IS MADE TO MATCH DRESSER. Has a handsome double serpentine finish, with double drawers, 19x34 inch top. **THE THREE PIECES** style for 1901, the equal of suites that sell everywhere at double the price. At \$16.95 PRICE this suite comes carefully packed in burial, cloth and excelsior, complete with drawers, dresser pulls, locks, mirror, etc. Order Today. SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., Chicago, Ill.

FAT How to reduce it Mr. Hoag Horn, 344 E. 65th St., New York City, writes: "It reduced my weight 40 lbs. three years ago, and I have not gained an ounce since." Purely vegetable, and harmless as water. Any one can make it at home at little expense. No starving. No dieting. We will mail a box of it, full particulars in a plain sealed package for 4 cents for postage, etc. **Hall Chemical Co., ST. LOUIS, MO.**

FREE SILK REMNANTS.

Each of our packages contains 75 to 125 pieces fine Silk Remnants of endless patterns and designs. Some of these goods from which these corners and squares were cut cost \$1 to \$3 per yard. They are suitable for making fancy crazy quilts, scarfs, sofa pillows, pin cushions, etc. **Our FREE Offer** To introduce Nichols' Story Magazine, printed in five bright colors, we send one package Silk Remnants by mail free to each person who sends 12 cents for a four months trial subscription, or we will send three packages free to each one sending 30 cents for a full year's subscription. **NICHOLS' MAGAZINE, 373 Dearborn St., Dept. R. 90 Chicago, Ill.** (This firm is absolutely reliable.—Editor.)

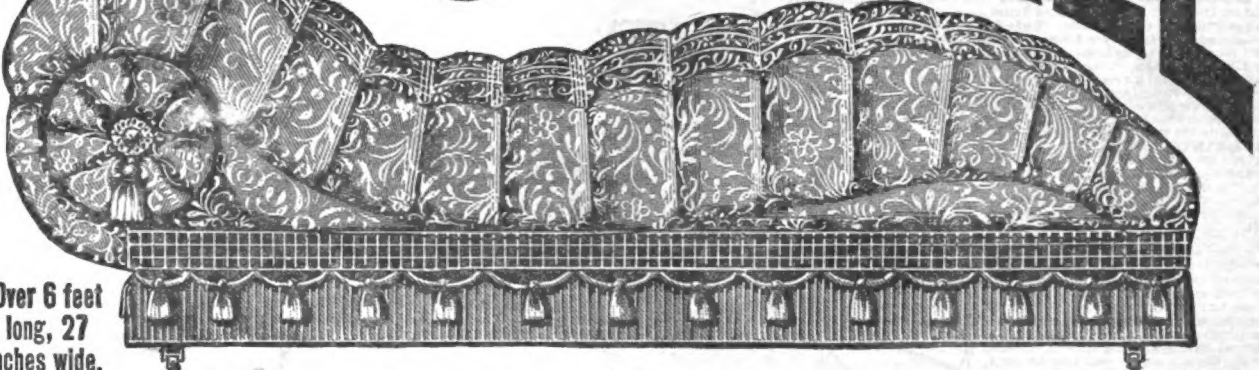
Dollars for Pennies.

"THE LIGHT THAT WON'T GO OUT."

Every family in America is ready to buy "The light that sells on sight"—the wonderful new invention called ARC-LIGHT WICK. It burns a whole year without trimming. It kills a candle, discards kerosene, heats gas, and almost equals electricity or sunlight. It saves 20 per cent. of oil. It's clear, white and brilliant. It's the light that won't go out. It's the light in the window for the night. The ARC-LIGHT is something new. All need it, all buy it, all bless it. To show it means to sell it, and it yields from 100 per cent. to 500 per cent. profit to agents.

The same kind of carbon that gives the electric light its brilliancy is woven into the Arc-Light by a patent process. We hold affidavits showing that an Arc-Light burned 1040 hours, giving the last hour the same perfect, brilliant, light it gave the first. A single lamp manufacturer in New England, who bought over 35,000 Arc-Lights, writes: "The Arc-Light beats all other lamps, and turns night into day. Every home, store, hotel, or company will light. We have manufactured them for years, and we wholesale terms. Medium or A for house lamps—dozen, 25 cents; wicks, for hand wide, sample, 5 gross, \$2.50; hall, store, or sample, 5 cents; \$3.50. Dwick, 11-2 hall, bracket, or 23 cents; dozen; parlor lamps, sample, 33 cents; per gross, \$3.50. On all orders for \$10.00 accompanied by sample dozen, giving width desired, and see how they go. We can supply you with any style ARC-LIGHT WICK in any quantities. From a single wick to a thousand dozen. **SPECIAL FREE COUPON OFFER.** To all who send this offer for three months' trial subscription to this paper we will send 2 samples of A or E wick. Address COMFORT, Box 959, Augusta, Maine.

HANDSOME COUCH FREE



Think of it, you can get an Upholstered Couch, 2 pairs of Lace Curtains and a handsome set of Table Silverware, for selling our Remedies. There is no chance or deception about this advertisement. We speak the truth and nothing but the truth. We are determined to introduce our Remedies into every household, and every person answering this advertisement who will sell only 6 boxes of our Positive Corn Cure, a positive cure for corns, bunions and callous feet, will receive our generous offer of a handsome Upholstered Couch and two pairs of Nottingham Lace Curtains, with a sterling silver plated Butter Knife, Sugar Spoon, and a beautifully engraved Salt and Pepper Set, which we give absolutely free for selling only 6 boxes of Salve at 25 cts. a box. If you agree to sell the Salve, write to-day and we will send you by mail. When sold you send us the \$1.50 and we guarantee if you comply with the offer we shall send you with the Silverware; the Upholstered Couch and 2 pairs of Nottingham Lace Curtains will be given absolutely free. We are an old, reliable concern, with a reputation for square and honest dealing, and we guarantee to do exactly as we say. Our Lace Curtains are 3 yards long and over a yard wide. The Silverware is guaranteed silver-plated on pure metal. The Couches are full size, over 6 feet long, and over 2 feet wide. They are well stuffed, beautifully upholstered with handsomely colored velour, and when shipped are sent from the factory by freight direct to your address. **MANUFACTURERS' SUPPLY DEPARTMENT J1, No. 65 FIFTH AVE., NEW YORK CITY**

represented by the elevated position in which the six women stand. These "women" by the way, are all men dressed in skirts, as the traditions of the Chinese stage do not approve of women taking part in plays, although during late years there has been a disposition to change this rule.

The bit of action where the Prince comes to understand the situation is the best exhibition of acting in the whole play. The wife, up in heaven—on the table—warbles a solo softly, as if at a great distance. The bereaved husband hears the sounds faintly, at first, as he indicates by putting one hand to his ear, and standing in a listening attitude. As the angelic song sounds louder, and explains the situation to him, an expression of wonder comes over his face, and then, as she tells of her regret at leaving him, but her belief that the baby will be his comfort, and he begins to realize the honor that has been conferred upon him, the hero's grief gives place to a subdued joy and gratitude that he has been permitted to enjoy even so much of the society of so exalted a personage. He calls a servant and has the baby brought into the room, and takes it in his arms and kisses it. The angel mother looking down from the table sings her joy at the sight, the sisters join in a jubilant chorus, at the end of which they climb down from the tables and walk off the stage. The supers come in and remove the tables and chair, the prince walks off with the baby, and the play is done.

Many Chinese plays go on from day to day in a continued performance of a long drama, but in this case the complete play was given every afternoon and night. Into this performance, too, were introduced certain variety features, similar to our own theatrical methods. There was a sword contest between two soldiers, and a feast was given by the Prince to some noble guest, in order to afford an opportunity for some fancy dancing after the Chinese fashions. Among the dancers was one star performer who was advertised to be one of the famous "small feet" Chinese women. She wore the most wonderful costumes of any of the members of the company, and minced about the stage in a funny little "walk-around," with a great flourishing of a superb fan. As a matter of fact "she" was no woman at all, but a small man walking on artificial supports carved at the bottom to represent the small feet. The feet were shod in silk stockings and tiny red leather shoes, and as they peeped from the hem of his skirt looked like what I should imagine the real thing might.

The three men in the orchestra played on a variety of instruments, according to the sentiment which the action of the play required. I do not know the names of any of the instruments. They were all queer looking; wooden drums, and things which looked like gourds; buckets with strings stretched across them, and a strange fiddle with only one string, on which a man fiddled for half an hour at a time, with his eyes shut. The orchestra smoked cigarettes when they wanted to, and I suspect there was opium in the smoke, for the players seemed in a half somnolent condition a good share of the time. This may have been due to their own music. Awful as it seemed at first I really came to rather like the monotonous "tum-tum" of it. Certainly no other theatrical performance ever gave me more real pleasure than did this in the Chinese play house.

What can be more appropriate for a wedding or birthday present than an Organ or Piano? There was a time when these things were an expensive luxury. Now, however, owing to the change in business methods they are within the reach of all. If any of our readers are in doubt in regard to this let them write to the Beethoven Piano & Organ Company, Box 1024, Washington, N. J., for their large free catalogue. It shows you Organs and Pianos that can be purchased from \$21.75 upwards and you don't have to pay a cent until you have tried the instrument 30 days. The reason they can sell so cheap is because they are manufacturers and sell direct to the people at a very small profit over the cost to manufacture. Write them to-day.

Rescued From Drink

by a new discovery, odorless and tasteless, which any lady can give in tea, coffee or food. It does its work so silently and so surely that the devoted wife, sister or daughter looks on the drunkard as reclaimed even against his will and without his knowledge or co-operation. Send name and address to Dr. J. W. Haines, 392 Glenn Bldg., Cincinnati, O., and he will mail enough of the remedy free to show how it is used in tea, coffee or food.

SEND NO MONEY

If you live in Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, West Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Iowa or Missouri (if any other state send \$2.00), state whether you wish cloth or leather trimming, whether narrow track, 4 feet 8 inches, or wide, 5 feet 6 inches, cut out and return this ad. and we will send you this NEW 1901 STYLE HIGH GRADE LEATHER QUARTER TOP BUGGY by freight—C. O. D., subject to examination. You can examine it at your nearest railroad station, call in any expert to examine it, compare it with buggies that dealers sell at \$45.00 to \$60.00, and if you find it perfectly satisfactory, all and more than we claim for it, the greatest value ever shown, and freight charges (less \$2.00 if sent with order). The buggy will be shipped direct from our own factory in Southern Ohio. The freight will average for 300 miles, \$2.00; 400 miles, \$2.50; 500 miles, \$3.00.

SPECIAL OFFER PRICE \$34.95 After you have paid the railroad agent our special offer one month's FREE TRIAL. price, \$34.95, and freight charges, you can use the buggy one month, during which time you can put it to every test, compare it with every buggy in your neighborhood, regardless of price, and if you have any reason to be dissatisfied with your purchase, you can return the buggy to us at our expense of freight charges both ways, and we will immediately return your money.

OUR SPECIAL \$34.95 PRICE is based on the actual cost of material and labor, with but our one small percentage of profit added, based on the actual factory cost from our own factory and is less than dealers can buy in carload lots. This \$34.95 buggy is a thoroughly reliable guaranteed rig, made from selected material throughout and will outwear a half dozen of the cheap factory or implement dealer jobs. TOP—Leather curtains, good quality dark green head lining, lined back curtain, lined stays with fancy beaded work in stays, black prop nuts, New Era nickel plated fasteners, three-bow top highest grade black enameled steel bow sockets, highest grade wrought iron joints and rods.

UPHOLSTERING—Seat and back are full spring, highest grade tempered steel springs full, button tufted and trimmed in either good weight dark green trimming cloth or genuine leather, as desired; full padded seat, ends, bright toe and panel carpet, nickel dash rail.

PAINTING—This rig is given an extra job of painting; body, black with decorated strainers; gear, dark green with glazed carmine and aluminum striping. Shafts trimmed with 24-inch black enameled glazed duck and leather straps.

BODY—Body is made of thoroughly seasoned lumber, piano box, solid panel back, rounded corners, concave risers, swell panel, convex seat panels, oval edge iron, hardwood step strips, seasoned ash stiles and corner pillars, hardwood seat frame, extra well ironed seat, braced throughout, mitered, glued and plugged.

GEAR—The gear is a strong, substantial, well made gear, 15-16 inch double collar, fantail steel axle, three and four-plate Elliptical tempered steel end springs, full back circle fifth wheel, with king bolt in rear of axle, double reach gear, ironed full length; body loops, patent quick shaft couplers, a strictly high grade, substantial, well made gear.

WHEELS—Good standard grade, made of selected, seasoned hickory, 1/2-inch Sarven's patent, bolted between each spoke, full 1/2-inch rounded edge steel tire, crimped and bolted thoroughly, honestly made, guaranteed wheels.

WILL OUTWEAR TWO SETS OF CHEAP STOCK WHEELS.

YOU NEED NOT SEND ONE CENT provided you have ever ordered goods from us otherwise we require \$2.00 to accompany your order. We make this condition to protect us against those who would send for the buggy out of idle curiosity with no idea of accepting and paying for it when received. Understand, people who have ordered goods from us send no money with their order, others must send \$2.00. We are the largest dealers in buggies in the world selling direct to the consumer, and, while we sell buggies as low as \$20.00 and as high as \$62.00, this, our \$34.95 top buggy is the greatest value ever offered by us or any other house.

\$4000.00 COUNTING CONTEST

IT COSTS NOTHING TO TRY

Can you count the spots in the border to this announcement? If you can you may win a handsome cash prize or one of many other fine premium prizes offered to those who enter this contest. Our Monthly Illustrated Magazine already has over a third of a million readers. We want to make it a round million. Will you help us? You can if you will. Sit down and count carefully the spots on this border. Our contest requires tact and skill. To persons doing the best work for us in this contest

LARGE CASH PRIZES will be paid. In order that everyone who tries may win something, part of the \$4000.00 will be divided into many smaller premium prizes so that you can surely win one and thus be well paid for entering this contest. We prefer to win a large number of friends in this way rather than a few by very large prizes. We mean what we say, have paid hundreds of dollars in cash prizes in the past and propose to pay out much more in the future. Send for list of some who have won. You need not send one cent of your money to enter it. While if you are in earnest

REMEMBER you may win handsomely. Count the Spots At Once. Write us your answer and you will hear from us by return mail when we will tell you just what you may be entitled to. Don't let this pass. Address: **THE COLUMBIAN, 394 Atlantic Ave. Boston, Mass.**

AGENTS make \$250.00 a month selling the Magic Lamp. Write MAGIC LIGHT CO., Chicago.

\$8 Paid Per 100 for Distributing Samples of Washing fluid. Send 6c stamp. A. W. SCOTT, Cohoes, N.Y.

FREE Handsome Catalogue. National Shoe & Garment Co., 136 Van Buren St., Chicago.

WANTED AGENTS in every county to sell "Family Memorials;" good profits and steady work. Address, CAMPBELL & CO., 610 Plum St., Elgin, Ill.

\$50 to \$100 best investment in United States for this amount. Particulars free. Address **Thomas C. Powell, Box 1045, Providence, R. I.**

LADIES WANTED to take up stamping at home. We pay 10 cents an hour while learning. H. F. JONES, Dept. 1, Brooklyn, N. Y.

RUPTURE Cured while you work. You pay \$4 when cured. No cure, no pay. ALEX. SPEIRS, Box 502, Westbrook, Maine.

10,000 ARE VERY ANXIOUS TO GET MARRIED pictures and addresses FREE. The PILOT, 6, Station E, Chicago.

GET RICH QUICK Learn the best paying profession of the age. Instructions FREE. Ladies or gentlemen. Write DR. W. W. LATROPE, Sta. X, Jackson, Mich.

PAINS Rheumatic, Lumbago, Chest and Kidney, cured by the Universal Plaster, 25c. By mail only. The RENGAW CO., 812 Linn St., Cincinnati, O.

PLAYS Best List of New Plays. 325 Nos. Dialogues, Speakers, Hand Books. Catalogue free. T. S. DENISON, Pub., Dept. 8, Chicago

LADIES TO WORK AT HOME \$8.00 per week; no canvassing; all material furnished and sent prepaid. Send stamped addressed envelope for full particulars. Universal Co., Dept. 29, 524 Walnut St., Phila., Pa.

Get Married 8000 ladies want to marry. Many rich. Send 2 cts. for photos and big sealed list with addresses and full description. Satisfaction guaranteed. Union Corresponding Club, Box 608, Austin, Ill.

\$6.95 SEND NO MONEY If you live within 500 miles of Chicago (if further send \$1.00), cut this ad out and send to us, and we will send you this OUR

HIGH GRADE PORTABLE FORGE, the best portable forge made, 22-inch hearth, 30 inches high, 9-inch fan, material and workmanship guaranteed. You can examine this forge at your nearest railroad station, and if found perfectly satisfactory, exactly as represented and the equal of forges that others sell at \$12.00 to \$15.00 and upwards, pay the railroad agent our SPECIAL PRICE

\$6.95 and freight charges. (\$5.95 and charges if \$1.00 is sent with order.) The forge weighs about 25 pounds and the freight will average for each 300 miles about 40 to 75 cents.

SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO, ILL.

Portable Blacksmiths Forge, \$6.95

Write for Free Catalogue of Blacksmiths Tools.

SEND NO MONEY if you live within 700 miles of Chicago, (if further, send \$1.00), cut this ad. out and send to us, and we will send you this big 300-lb.

NEW RESERVOIR COOK STOVE by freight, C. O. D., subject to examination. Examine it at your freight depot, and if found perfectly satisfactory and the greatest stove bargain you ever saw or heard of, pay the freight agent **OUR SPECIAL OFFER PRICE of \$11.50** and freight charges, or \$10.50 and freight charges if \$1.00 is sent with order. Freight will average about \$1.00 for each 300 miles. This stove is size 8-18, oven is 18x17x11; top 24x24, height 22 1/2, made from best pig iron, large flues, cut tops, heavy cut 2 1/2, heavy covers; heavy linings, with very heavy sectional fire back, large balled ash pan, slide hearth plate and slide oven shelf, pouch feed, oven door kicker; heavy lined oven door; handsome nickel trimmings on doors, front, sides, etc.; extra large porcelain lined reservoir. Best coal burner made. We furnish an extra wood grate, making it a perfect wood burner. We issue a **BINDING GUARANTEE** with every stove. Your stove dealer would ask you at least \$20.00 for such a stove. Order this and you will save at least \$8.00. Write for free Stove Catalogue. **SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., Chicago.**

THIS STOVE is size 8-18, oven is 18x17x11; top 24x24, height 22 1/2, made from best pig iron, large flues, cut tops, heavy cut 2 1/2, heavy covers; heavy linings, with very heavy sectional fire back, large balled ash pan, slide hearth plate and slide oven shelf, pouch feed, oven door kicker; heavy lined oven door; handsome nickel trimmings on doors, front, sides, etc.; extra large porcelain lined reservoir. Best coal burner made. We furnish an extra wood grate, making it a perfect wood burner. We issue a **BINDING GUARANTEE** with every stove. Your stove dealer would ask you at least \$20.00 for such a stove. Order this and you will save at least \$8.00. Write for free Stove Catalogue. **SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., Chicago.**

HISSING SERPENT.



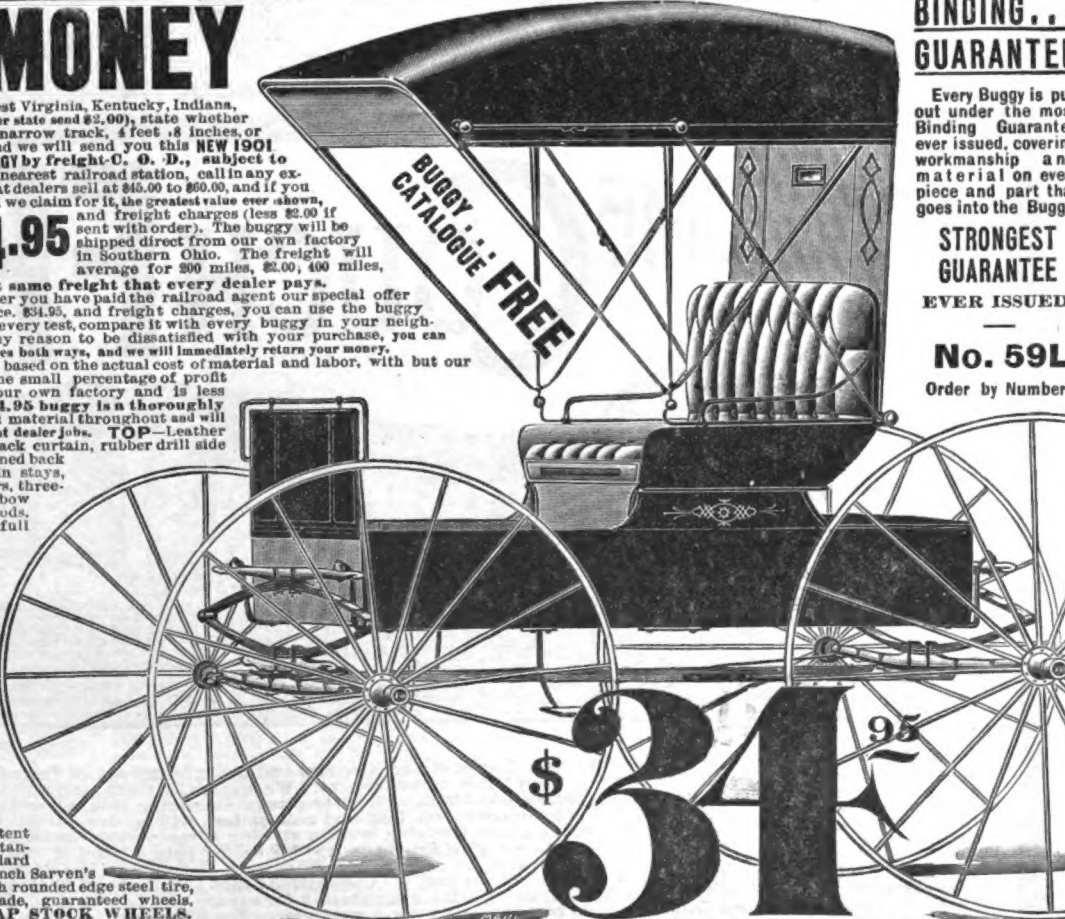
THE SNAKE CHARMER has no influence on this jolly musical novelty. You blow it up and see it slowly expand. It is a regular Rubber neck, for it stretches out to see like a peninsular, and what heaps of fun you can have with it. Let a friend take hold of it and feel it squirm, then see your friend squirm when it begins to hiss and hiss and double up rubber around. They create more sport in a crowd than you can imagine and everybody wants one just to have some sport with their neighbors. Don't miss it; you will laugh and grow fat over the sport it will make. They sell quick at Fairs and on the street. Send 10 cents for a four months' trial subscription to our great home monthly and we will send you one FREE. Send 15c. you get two, 25c. for four, 60c. for one dozen. You make big profits; we pay postage. Address **SUNSHINE, Dept. 6 L, Augusta, Maine.**

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Every Buggy is put out under the most Binding Guarantee ever issued, covering workmanship and material on every piece and part that goes into the Buggy.

STRONGEST GUARANTEE EVER ISSUED.

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AT OUR SPECIAL \$34.95 PRICE THE BUGGY COMES COMPLETE with top, full length, side and back curtains, carpet, wrench, anti-rattlers and shafts.

EXTRA FOR POLE, WITH NECKYOE AND WHIFFLETREE IN PLACE OF SHAFTS, \$1.20. Address, **SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO, ILL.**



Over a MILLION CASES of

"LA CRIPPE"

A Real Death Dealing Tidal Wave

Sweeps the Country, 150,000

Cases in New York City Alone.

An epidemic of Grip is sweeping the land with cyclonic fury. Death stalks in city and country, touching with its cold, merciless finger high and low, rich and poor.

Ten thousand school children were prostrated by it in Philadelphia in four days, and the last of the holidays saw the city of New York fighting tooth and nail to stay its progress. Men, women and children were dying by the hundreds.

Dr. George F. Shady, the physician and surgeon who attended General Ulysses S. Grant during his last sickness, and whose exquisite skill prolonged the life of the martyr president, James A. Garfield, believes Grip to be one of the most dangerous of diseases. Its worst and most to be dreaded complication is pneumonia. This epidemic gives no warning, but steals upon us like a deadly foe and woe be unto the unfortunate person who is a little run down and ailing. It is hard enough for the breadwinners of the family to be laid up three or four weeks without rolling up a big doctor's bill. No one can afford this sickness and unless properly treated there is always a feeling that the strength is gone and good for nothing. La Grippe has baffled the skill of doctors, the art of professors and the knowledge of the scientists for years and it remains for the OXIAN Remedies alone to become famous. They are the only true specific and treatment for this unwelcome epidemic germ and for the prevention of Pneumonia and Consumption.

How to Tell When You Have the Grip.

You first notice a shivery, creepy feeling all over the body. This is the Grip poison entering the nervous system. Then comes that tired, all-used-up feeling, dullness in head, pain in back of neck and between shoulders, general aching in body, soreness of muscles, limbs heavy, difficulty of breathing, filling up sensation in throat, short quick cough, thin, watery discharge from nose, frequent sneezing and running of eyes. These are the general symptoms, but there are many others all of which denote poisons of the Grip lurking in the system. Without proper treatment you are in an excellent condition for the undertaker. Grip makes people insane; it drives thousands to suicide and to the mad house; it is a plague that makes all who know of its misery-making power shudder.

Women are far more susceptible to the Grip than men. They respond more readily to infection and they are more liable too, to the dread "melancholia" that follows the Grip. Women suffer severely from the sudden shock Grip causes and sink quickly into a state of prostration.

The Grip germ is no respecter of persons. Rich and poor are all the same and it multiplies so fast that once it enters a community it begins to count its victims not by ones, but by half-dozens and scores.

OXIAN not only cures but prevents the Grip. Any one fortified by a box of the OXIAN tablets can go with impunity right into a Grip-infested district.

One of the passing questions everywhere now is, What shall we do to ward off the Grip? That question is answered in the five letters composing the word OXIAN.

OXIAN will cure and OXIAN, taken in connection with nourishing liquids and fortified by OXIAN Plasters, will help build up those whom Grip has wasted.

There never was a time when diseases of all kinds could be so successfully battled as the present.

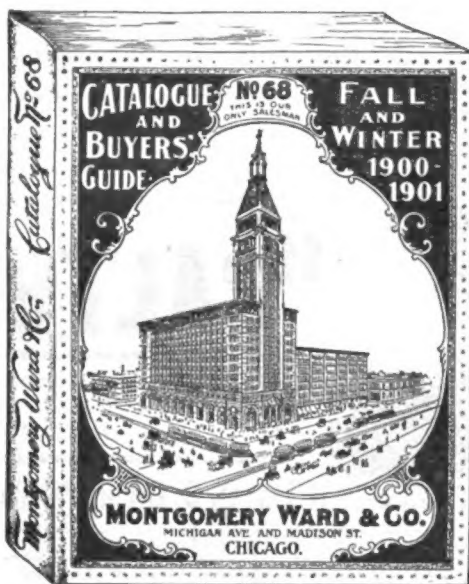
OXIAN is put up in small and large boxes. It can be carried in the pocket and taken as a "fortifier" at any time, on the street, in the office or workshop, or in the home.

The OXIAN Discoveries are famous as great life-givers and we would recommend, by all means, securing this treatment for yourself and friends. Do not be a victim of La Grippe when you have a cure and quick treatment within your grasp. Delays are dangerous, therefore we shall look for your immediate order by return mail as per special FREE La Grippe coupon offer.

FREE! FREE! FREE!

Address The Giant Oxie Co., Box 654, Augusta, Maine, either by postal or letter and they will send you free by return mail their **Oxian La Grippe** Treatment, without cost, or if you will send 10c. they will send you a 25c. Oxian Electric Plaster in addition to the regular Oxian cure. Only six thousand of these free cures will be sent so send at once if you want it free.

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17,000 PICTURES
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This book tells pretty nearly what your dealer pays for everything. It quotes wholesale prices on 70,000 articles, and shows pictures of 17,000 of them. It includes practically everything that anybody uses, wears or eats; and its prices are the lowest ever quoted. It will save the average family at least \$100 a year --- some \$500. Two million people send for this book yearly as a buying guide, and we want you to have one, too.

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Two Million People are now numbered among our customers. We carry for them a stock valued at \$2,500,000. We employ 2,000 clerks to fill their orders and 100 typewriters to write letters to them.

You Need This Book because you can rely on it. Other catalogues are offered you, but this one is best. Our house is the oldest and largest, and our prices are always the lowest. Our guarantee is the fairest. And our record of a quarter century assures you of fair dealing.

We Guarantee Satisfaction and safe delivery. Every article in our catalogue is described exactly as it is. Not the slightest exaggeration is ever permitted. But if anything that you get doesn't suit you in quality, or price, or fit, send it back and we will replace it. Or we will send your money back, and pay transportation both ways. We consider no expense or effort too great to avoid having one dissatisfied customer.

Two Thousand Stores in One

Two thousand average dealers together will not buy so much in a year as we. The makers who sell to us have no traveling expense, no credit risk, no losses, no salesmen to pay. They save the whole cost of selling the same goods to 2,000 separate stores, scattered everywhere. The fiercest competition in America centers in the effort to get our trade. The prices we pay are never much above cost; and goods that we cannot buy low enough are made in factories of our own. Is it any wonder that we can sell for about what common dealers pay?

We get along with a fraction of the profit charged by stores. We have no salesmen—no selling expense save our catalogue. A dealer must make several times as much on each article to make expenses and live. Our expense is but a small percentage, on sales that amount to millions of dollars annually.

We simply combine the buying and selling of two thousand average stores. We save the wasteful methods that cost more than the merchandise, and we give the saving to you. This is the modern method of business, and the buying of the 20th century will be done more and more by mail. In this way we are now saving our customers from four to five million dollars annually. You will become one of those customers when you see this book.

Cut this slip out and send it to us with 15 cents in stamps **Today.**

Montgomery Ward & Co., Michigan Ave. & Madison St., Chicago:
 Enclosed find 15 cents for partial postage on your 1200-page *Buyers' Guide* No. 68 for Fall and Winter, 1900-01.

Name _____
 (Be sure to write very plainly.)

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BE SURE TO ENCLOSE THIS SLIP IN AN ENVELOPE
 This slip was clipped from Feb. Comfort

Send Only 15 Cents If you want our catalogue, fill out carefully the slip to the left of this, and mail it to us today, enclosing 15 cents. This catalogue which we offer you costs us about 70 cents to print, even in million lots. The postage on it costs us 32 cents more. We ask you to send us but 15 cents (less than half the postage alone) just to show that you do not send from mere curiosity.

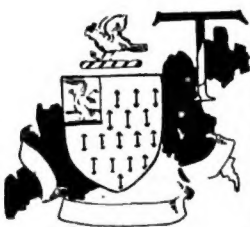
This book will save any average family at least \$100 per year. If you don't find that it will save you at least a hundred times what it costs you, simply write us and we will cheerfully send your 15 cents back.

Please send today, before you forget it.

Montgomery Ward & Co., Michigan Avenue & Madison Street Chicago

An American Genius.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



HE remarkable career of Benjamin Thompson, an American boy of long ago who in his latter life became Count Rumford, is a career with which many very intelligent boys and girls are strangely unfamiliar. Some of the most popular of our American histories make but brief mention of Benjamin Thompson. This may be because he was disloyal to his country, and while this is a serious offense Benjamin Thompson was not a traitor in the real sense of the word, and his life was one of great usefulness to his own and other countries. If you were to visit the beautiful city of Munich you would see there a fine statue of Thompson erected by the grateful people in memory of a man who did much for the poor and suffering. If you were to go to the town of Woburn, ten miles from Boston, you would see the house in which Benjamin Thompson was born in the year 1753.

His father was a farmer, and the life of the boy was like that of any other farmer's boy, but he very early in life revealed the fact that he was not like the ordinary farmer boy. It became evident that he had a mind far beyond his years. It also became evident that he was not "cut out for a farmer," for he was dabbling in all sorts of chemical experiments before he had reached his teens. His father was wise enough not to make any attempt to force the boy to become that for which he was so evidently that nature had unfitted him, and when young Benjamin was but thirteen he was sent to Salem to enter the store of John Appleton. All of his spare time when he was out of the store was occupied in scientific studies and experiments. He lived with Mr. Appleton, whose home was frequented by the most learned men of Salem, whose conversation was chiefly on

educational or philosophical topics.

The quiet young apprentice sitting unnoticed in a corner drank in all that was said and turned all that was of real value to account. He had lessons from the Rev. Thomas Barnard, minister of the First Church and one of the most learned men in Salem. With what diligence the boy applied himself and how alert was his mind may be known from the fact that when he was but fourteen years of age his knowledge of astronomy, algebra, geometry and the higher mathematics was so great that he calculated a solar eclipse to within a few seconds of the time when it occurred. After staying three years in Salem the boy was apprenticed to a Boston merchant named Hope-still Capen who kept a dry goods store. Here young Thompson was faithful to his duties in his master's store, but all of his spare time was given to studies. He was not in the least carried away by the fascinations of the larger town to which he had gone, and he was wise enough to choose for his acquaintances those of character and intelligence. After serving his apprenticeship with Mr. Capen, young Thompson began the study of medicine and anatomy and attended scientific lectures at Harvard College. He had returned to his home in Woburn and he walked to and from Boston every day while he was attending Harvard. When you remember that the distance was ten miles you can understand how determined the boy was to secure an education. When he was nineteen young Thompson began teaching school in Concord, New Hampshire, which was then called Rumford. Before he was twenty years of age he was married to Mrs. Rolfe, widow of Colonel Benjamin Rolfe, a lady of large fortune and a good many years older than her young husband. His marriage gave young Thompson a place among the best and most intelligent people of the town with whom he was a great favorite by reason of his unusual ability and his kindly and pleasing manners.

He came under the notice of the royal governor Wentworth, who was so pleased with his intelligence and his manly bearing that he made him major of a Provincial regiment and showed other marks of special interest in him. He was not yet twenty-one when he became major of his regiment, but he filled the posi-

tion with dignity, and his popularity increased.

Then came the sure signs of the Revolution and it began to be suspected that the gallant young major was more in sympathy with the Royalists than with the Patriots. He protested that his sympathy was with the Patriots, but his loyalty was doubted, and it soon became expedient for him to leave his house in Rumford and conceal himself. The next that was heard of him he was on board a British frigate, and after the evacuation he went to England as a bearer of dispatches from the Royalist general, Howe. Of course there could be no doubt of his sympathy with the Royal cause after that, and he was held in detestation by his countrymen who could not forgive him for affecting a loyalty that he did not feel.

But all that he had lost in popularity in America was speedily made up to him in England where he at once became a general favorite, and where he was patronized by those high in authority. He was at first given a clerkship in the colonial office and soon after he was appointed Secretary of the Province of Georgia. In 1780 he became Secretary of State for the northern department, and while he discharged all the duties of his various offices with remarkable ability for one so young his mind was still partly occupied with scientific problems. He suggested important improvements in the army and navy, and began to experiment in gunpowder. All that he did was well done and his popularity increased. He was made a lieutenant-colonel, and was sent to America with a cavalry command. He reached Charleston, South Carolina, and remained in America until the end of the war when he went back to England and retired from the army. Military life must have been a good deal to his liking, for he set out to help the Austrians in their warfare against the Turks. Falling in with Prince Maximilian they became great friends, and Thompson entered the service of Bavaria. He remained in the service of Bavaria for eleven years occupying different official positions and rising to the distinction of one of the most honored citizens of Munich. He instituted many reforms for the good of the city and for the good of all Bavaria. He re-organized the army, and set in operation certain systems of the greatest benefit to the poor. He was so

helpful to them and so genuinely sympathetic that they regarded him as the greatest benefactor they had ever known.

When he became seriously ill the poor of Munich formed a great procession and marched to the cathedral to offer up prayers for his recovery. He saved the city from capture by its enemies, and if he had been disloyal to his own country he was loyal to the countries of his adoption. It may have been that he was in this way trying to atone for the wrong-doing of the past. It may have been that he was sincere in his feeling that the Royalists were right and the Patriots wrong in their struggle for supremacy in America. Allowing this to be true, he was still guilty of wrong-doing in affecting a loyalty to America when he was planning to join the ranks of the British.

Plain Benjamin Thompson became Count Rumford in the year 1791. The title of count of the Holy Roman Empire was given to him, and he must have had some lingering love for his old home for he chose to be called Count Rumford and he gave other proof of affection for the land he had deserted. It can at least be said to the credit of this American Count that he lived a life of great industry and usefulness. After he retired from public service in Bavaria he became one of the greatest students of his day, and his discoveries were of great value to the scientific world. He gave special attention to the subjects of light and heat and fuel. He became an inventor of a number of useful articles. He instituted in America the "Rumford Medal" for the advancement of the knowledge of light and heat, a medal that is still awarded by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in Boston.

In his last years he went to France to live and he died at Auteuil in the year 1814. He never saw his native land after leaving it at the close of the Revolution, but it is certain that he had it much in mind, and it must have been that a man of his sensibilities must have looked back in his declining years with sorrow and regret on the disloyalty of his early manhood that made him an alien, and his name a reproach to his countrymen. He was long ago judged by him who knows all hearts and all human motives as we cannot know them, and it is not for us to judge him now.